FBIS
DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

9 JANUARY 1981

American Hostages

U.S. Deputy Secretary of State Warren Christopher arrived in Algiers, AFP reported, to hold talks with Algerian Foreign Minister Mohammad Ben Yahia concerning negotiations over the release of the U.S. hostages held by Iran. Citing "informed sources," the news agency reported that Iranian officials have confirmed the arrival of further U.S. clarifications to its latest proposal for the hostages' release.

Iranian Domestic Affairs

Shiraz radio reported that Ayatollah Hoseyn 'Ali Montazeri told a religious seminar in the city that the enemies of Iran's Islamic revolution have started a "new and expanded effort" to destroy it, including propaganda attacks aimed at the clergy. The danger of diverting the revolution from its path, he said, is greater than the threat of an enemy military attack.

Iranian Foreign Affairs

Speaking at a Tehran press conference, according to PARS, Minister of State for Executive Affairs Behzad Nabavi said Iran had warned United Arab Emirates officials not to get involved in "U.S. imperialist plots in the region." The minister added that Iran had given "strong warnings" to "reactionary governments" in the Persian Gulf not to give military assistance to Iraq. Regarding the forthcoming Islamic conference, Nabavi said Iran will not participate because Iraqi President Saddam Husayn has decided to attend the conference.

Iran-Iraq Conflict

Iraqi Prisoners--A total of 775 Iraqi troops captured in the latest Iranian offensive have arrived in Tehran, PARS reported. Citing a welcoming statement read to the first arriving group of prisoners, the news agency said that the Iraqis are to regard Iran as their "own home," using their detention to "gain an intimate insight into the Islamic revolution of Iran." The statement also pointed out to the Iraqi prisoners that Iran has never copied the "cruel acts" of Iraq's leaders in attacking civilians or using torture.

Military Situation--The Iranian armed forces continued to deliver "crushing blows" to Iraqi forces around Gilan-e Gharb and along the Kabir Kuh front, Tehran radio reported, making further westward advances and destroying more Iraqi tanks. In the course of summarizing further fighting along the Mahshahr-Abadan and Darkhovin-Mared axes, around Ahvaz and along the Karkheh River, an Iranian Joint Staff communique carried by the radio acknowleged that a "number of tanks...and one personnel carrier" were destroyed in the latest offensive.

Meanwhile, the Iraqi General Command, in a series of communiques carried by INA, claimed that Iraqi forces have halted the Iranian counteroffensive around Susangerd and Gilan-e Gharb, inflicting heavy losses in men and materiel on the Iranian forces. In an interview with the news agency, Yasin Ramadan, the Iraqi Army commander in chief, said that Iraqi forces "have taught the Iranian enemy a good lesson" in a battle which he described as important as the first Iraqi offensive last September.

Afghanistan

The Afghan Revolution Council Presidium approved a general military conscription law initiating universal military service for all males aged 20-40. In addition to reporting the new conscription law, Kabul radio broadcast a declaration by the PDPA Central Committee and the Revolution Council Presidium explaining the reasons for the new law. The declaration stressed the threat by "exploiters and treacherous elements" to the Sawr Revolution and the need to strengthen the armed forces to counter this challenge. Calling on all Afghans to respond to the new law, the declaration at the same time warned that those who try to avoid military service or desert will be "severely punished."

The new military conscription law follows earlier reports that current Afghan draftees have threatened to desert if they are not released at the end of their scheduled tours of service.

Israel

According to Jerusalem television, Prime Minister Menahem Begin sees "no way out" of the Cabinet crisis over recommended salary increases for teachers and expects Finance Minister Yiga'el Hurvitz to resign at the 11 January Cabinet meeting. While the television report went on to state that if Hurvitz does resign, Begin will follow with his resignation, thus prompting early elections, Jerusalem radio said the prime minister will try to head off steps toward an election by waiting 2 days for Hurvitz' resignation to become effective and allowing other ministers who wish to resign to do so. At that time, the radio continued, Begin will meet with his fellow Likud coalition members to decide the issue of early elections and to forestall an Alignment initiative in the Knesset. Tel Aviv IDF radio reported that, following a meeting with Begin to work out a compromise on the salary dispute, Interior Minister Yosef Burg said the National Religious Party, part of the Likud coalition, "should not initiate early elections" but warned that if Begin attempts to govern with a minority government, the date for elections probably will be advanced.

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PLO-EGYPTIAN AAPSO COMMITTEE DELEGATION STATEMENT

NC081905 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 1718 GMT 8 Jan 81

["Text" of 8 January joint statement on talks between the PLO and an Egyptian Afro-Asian Solidarity Committee delegation that visited Beirut 2-6 January]

[Text] Responding to an invitation from the PLO and the Palestinian solidarity committee, an Egyptian Afro-Asian Solidarity Committee delegation led by 'Abd ar-Rahman ash-Sharqawi, secretary general of the Egyptian Solidarity Committee and AAPSO secretary general, paid a visit to Lebanon to attend the celebrations on the occasion of the 16th anniversary of the Palestinian revolution. The delegation included Ahmad Hamrush, deputy secretary general of the committee and member of the AAPSO secretariat general; Dr Fu'ad Mursi, former Egyptian minister of supply and professor and lecturer at Alexandria University; Father Gregorious, archbishop of theological studies, Coptic culture and scientific research; Dr 'Abdallah 'Abd as-Shakkur, professor and lecturer at Al-Azhar University; and writers Mustafa Bahjat Badawi, Lutfi al-Khuli, Sa'd ad-Din Kamil and Hamid Zaydan, chief editor of the Egyptian newspaper ASH-SHA'B.

During the visit which took place from 2-6 January, the delegation met with Brother Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee and commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, and with a delegation representing the PLO Executive Committee and the Palestinian peace and solidarity committee.

Both sides reviewed the Arab homeland's issues, above all the Arab-Zionist conflict as well as the recent events in the Arab area that have upset the balance of power in favor of Israel; that have undermined the possibility of establishing stability and peace; that have caused differences and disputes, which have weakened the Arab solidarity forces and the confrontation front; that have enabled Israel to break the Arab and world blockade, especially after the signing of the Camp David agreements and the Egyptian-Israeli treaty; and that have led to an increase in U.S. intervention in the area through establishing military bases or through giving facilities to the U.S. armed forces.

Both sides discussed Israel's arbitrary measures in the occupied Palestinian and Arab territories--the increase in the oppression and intimidation of the Palestinian people; the use of brutal methods of torture inside Israeli prisons and detention camps; the hunting down of national leaders either by assassination or by deportation; the escalation of the acts of aggression against the Lebanese and Palestinian peoples, especially in southern Lebanon; and the attempts to carve out parts of southern Lebanon in favor of expansionist Zionism.

Both sides also reviewed the enemy's attempts to isolate the Egyptian people from their Arab nation and impose a partial settlement on them. Both sides also reviewed the measures to enhance solidarity between the Egyptian and Palestinian peoples within a pan-Arab work and as part of a long and joint struggle against imperialism and Zionism in which the blood of both peoples were mixed over the land of Palestine and Egypt.

Both sides also discussed the projected solutions to solve the Palestinian issue--solutions that ignore the Palestinian people's legitimate rights to self-determination, to return to their homeland and to establish an independent state on their national soil under the PLO's leadership.

Both sides agreed on the following point:

1. A just and comprehensive peace in the Middle East cannot be achieved without liberating all the occupied Arab territories in Sinai, the Syrian heights and the Palestinian national soil.

2. The Palestinian problem is the crux of the Arab-imperialist-Zionist conflict. There will be no stability in the area unless the Palestinian people achieve their legitimate right to self-determination, to return to their homeland and to establish an independent Palestinian state on their national soil. The PLO must also be recognized as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

3. To condemn the Zionist-Israeli plan to annex Jerusalem and make its capital in defiance of UN resolutions, the historic rights of the Palestinian people and the religious feelings of millions of Muslims and Christians around the world.

4. To reject the attempts aimed at isolating the Egyptian people from their Arab nation.

5. To support all that will further develop relations between the Egyptian and Palestinian peoples and preserve their national and pan-Arab traditions and their joint security in the face of imperialism and Zionism.

6. To condemn Israel's practices in the occupied Arab and Palestinian territories such as maintaining the policy of colonial settlement, adopting a policy of suppression and intimidation against the Palestinian citizens, assassinating and deporting national leaders and implementing a racist policy that deprives the Palestinian people of their occupied land and of their national, democratic and human rights.

7. To consider the so-called Palestinian self-rule as an excuse for Israel's expansionist plans in the Arab territories. This does not tally at all with the Palestinian people's legitimate rights to self-determination, to repatriation and to establish an independent Palestinian state. The struggle must be carried on to foil this.

8. To resist the attempts to settle the Palestinian issue that are intended to be imposed on the Palestinian people, the latest of which is the so-called Jordanian option.

9. To condemn the Israeli attacks on southern Lebanon and to consider the support for the Palestinian people in southern Lebanon as a pan-Arab issue.

10. To support the cohesion of the Palestinian resistance, the Lebanese national movement and all the Lebanese forces opposed to the isolationist plan, which is aimed at striking at Lebanon's unity and Arabism, and to appreciate Syria's role in confronting--together with these forces--the plans and interventions of imperialism and Zionism.

11. To affirm pride in Lebanon's pan-Arab role in the Arab-Israeli conflict and the dear sarifices the Lebanese people are offering for the national liberation battle.

12. To condemn all the attempts that encourage sectarian divisions and that work for the establishment of sectarian entities, and to incriminate the agent role that Sa'd Haddad is playing in southern Lebanon.

13. [To affirm] the importance of the struggle to achieve Arab solidarity against world imperialism, Zionism and their base--Israel. All Arab manpower, economic, military, financial and oil resources should be used in this struggle. This is a condition for achieving national and pan-Arab objectives.

14. To appreciate the role that the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries are playing in supporting the struggle of the Palestinian people and Arab nation in their crucial battle.

15. To appreciate both the role that the Islamic states are playing in support of the Palestinian people's rights and for the liberation of Jerusalem and the Arab territories [words indistinct] occupation as well as the role that Al-Azhar [Islamic theological university in Cairo] is playing in defending the Arabism of Jerusalem.

16. To appreciate the role that the Middle East Council of Churches and the World Council of Churches are playing in supporting the Palestinian people's rights and the Arabism of Jerusalem.

17. To affirm the importance of the role that the nonaligned states are playing in supporting the struggle of the Arab nation and the Palestinian people for the liberation of the occupied territories, for repatriation [of the Palestinian people], for self-determination and for the establishment of a Palestinian state.

18. To emphasize the importance of Arab-African cooperation. The Arab oil-producing countries are called upon to support the economies of the African states to enable them to achieve economic independence in the face of imperialist and Zionist interventions.

19. To support AAPSO, laud its historic role in supporting the struggle of the liberation movements and to completely endorse all AAPSO statements and resolutions issued in support of the Palestinian issue and the struggle of the Arab liberation movement.

20. To affirm the importance continuing the dialog and political and cultural contacts among the patriotic and national forces within the framework of solidarity and to further develop the role of the national solidarity committees and the political and popular organizations.

On this occasion both sides affirmed the importance of joint work between the Palestinian and Egyptian solidarity committees on the national and international levels to further develop AAPSO's role and achieve its objectives.

'ARAFAT ADDRESSES RALLY AT SIBLIN 8 JAN

NC091006 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 0530 GMT 9 Jan 81

[Excerpts] Brother commander in chief Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] has affirmed that the Palestinian revolution rejects settlement [of Palestinians in Lebanon] and that those who speak about settlement are conspiring with the Zionist enemy. He said that those who accepted settlement were with Camp David and dealt with the U.S. administration against the Palestinian revolution and the Lebanese National Movement.

Brother Abu 'Ammar was speaking at a popular rally in Siblin Institute held at noon yesterday on the occasion of Palestinian martyr day. The rally was attended by Nasirite Popular Organization Secretary General Brother Mustafa Sa'd and cadres from the Palestinian revolution and the Lebanese National Movement.

Addressing Reagan 'Arafat said: No one can impose his will on people who want to fight, and we shall continue to fight until either a cub or a flower [young Palestinian volunteers] raises the flag of Palestine, the flag of our Arab nation over the hills of Jerusalem.

The brother commander in chief affirmed: No solution, stability, security or any move in the area can succeed by jumping over the Palestinian issue, the main issue. Let Kissinger move.

He added: Regardless of how much they increase and intensify the conspiracies, the Palestinian choice remains the only choice because it is our Arab nation's fate; there is no other choice.

Brother Abu 'Ammar concluded his address by saying: I see victory as I see you before me. Let everyone know that Jerusalem is the Palestinian capital and that Palestine begins with Jerusalem. I say this so that the new Reagan will comprehend it.

'ARAFAT'S SPEECH AT BEIRUT POETRY FESTIVAL

NC081444 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 1141 GMT 8 Jan 81

[Speech by PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat--identified by announcer as "Abu 'Ammar"--at the Ash-Shaqif poetry festival held at the UNESCO hall in Beirut on 7 January on the 16th anniversary of the Palestinian revolution--recorded]

[Excerpts] Begin, Carter, Reagan, agent As-Sadat and all agents cannot silence this gun. There are no options except one--the Palestinian option. Let them plan and let them wait till the [Israeli] Labor Party comes [to power]. Recently in Madrid, they conferred on the Labor Party the title of the party of peace. Actually, it is a party which wants us to surrender, just as As-Sadat, Carter and Begin want us to surrender. These things cannot deceive us.

Two years after the [Camp David] plot, I want to remind the outgoing Carter of what he and Brzezinski once said. They said: Bye-bye PLO. I want to ask them what has happened to them. I am now telling them: Bye-bye. I am remaining here. I am remaining here protected by this Lebanese rifle which is united with the Palestinian rifle. It is this rifle which will draw the map in the Middle East. I am saying this so that Reagan, who supports the Jordanian option, may hear me.

'Abd an-Nasir once said that this revolution is the noblest phenomenon in our Arab nation and that it has come into being in order to stay. I wish to add to our Arab nation's martyr Jamal 'Abd an-Nasir words, by saying that this revolution has come into being in order to stay and to triumph, to triumph, to triumph. [applause]

A few days ago heroic pilots of the Syrian air force were martyred, along with the joint forces, over the Ash-Shaqif fortress [in south Lebanon]. Their bodies were discovered not far from the Ash-Shaqif fortress.

In the name of our Arab nation and in the name of all free and honorable men in the world, the Ash-Shaqif fortress says that it is standing fast against the plot and the plotters in order to bring for our nation a new and bright tomorrow.

Our path is difficult, hard, and long. We know this, brothers. We have neither invited you to a wedding nor to a promenade, but to a protracted popular liberation war.

BAHRAIN

UK'S HOWELL DISCUSSES OIL AFFAIRS WITH MINISTERS

JN091110 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 0910 GMT 9 Jan 81

[Excerpts] Manama, 9 Jan (GNA)--The Bahraini engineers' society held its annual meeting last night. The meeting was attended by the Bahraini ministers of foreign affairs, development and industry, interior, labor and social affairs as well as British Secretary of State for Energy David Howell and several Bahraini officials.

Addressing the conferees David Howell called for the establishment of healthy world economy to maintain oil prices and to render the world economy as it should be. He said: We are all alike, both in the oil producing and consuming countries, given that our mutual interest lies in a stable oil market. This, however, does not mean that oil prices should not be raised, but any increase should be in an expected manner whose burdens could be shouldered by our economies. Previously, oil prices were increased in a surprising and swift manner, which caused sudden chaos in the activities of the world economy.

Howell described the return to normal of economic activities in some industrial countries in 1981 as a fragile and weak process. Any serious increase in oil prices might blow up this life and might cause a stagnation in world trade. This, Howell added, might diminish the demand for Gulf and OPEC oil once again, with a possible increase in the prices of the industrial countries' exports once again. It will decrease the Western countries' aid to the developing countries.

The British secretary of state for energy pointed out that the energy ministers of the world energy agency have stressed the need that the industrial countries reduce the price pressures that are being brought to bear on the world oil market, that oil consumption be brought under control, that the levels of world production be maintained and that oil reserves be reduced. The ministers also stressed the need to avoid purchasing quantities of oil that might lead to disproportionate pressures on the market.

The British secretary of state for energy asserted the commitment of the industrial countries to aborting undesirable purchases at prices that would intensify the pressure on the market. He stressed the need to intensify the efforts exerted to reduce oil consumption and to maintain the local production of oil and gas.

David Howell stressed the need to continue efforts to reduce the long- and short-term demand for oil. He also stressed the need that the industrial countries make their economies less dependent on imported oil.

9 Jan Departure

JN091112 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 0930 GMT 9 Jan 81

[Excerpts] Manama, 9 Jan (GNA)--His Highness Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah, the amir of the State of Bahrain, received this morning David Howell, British secretary of state for energy, now visiting Manama.

The British secretary later left Manama at the end of a 2-day official visit to Bahrain, during which he held a series of talks with Bahraini officials on cooperation between the two countries in the field of energy.

OMAN

OMAN, NIGERIA ESTABLISH DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS

LD081624 Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 8 Jan 81 EA

[Text] The following joint communique was issued today in Muscat and Lagos:

Out of their desire to develop the relations of friendship existing between the Sultanate of Oman and the Federal Republic of Nigeria, the Sultanate of Oman and the Federal Republic of Nigeria have agreed to establish diplomatic relations at ambassadorial level.

HENRY KISSINGER ARRIVES IN MUSCAT 8 JAN

JN081448 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1427 GMT 8 Jan 81

[Text] Muscat, 8 Jan (GNA)--Dr Henry Kissinger, former U.S. secretary of state, arrived in Muscat at noon today on a private visit of several days to the Sultanate of Oman.

Dr Kissinger was received by Dr 'Umar az-Zawawi, adviser to the sultan of Oman.

PETROLEUM MINISTER DISCUSSES PRODUCTION PLANS

LD091156 Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 8 Jan 81 EA

[Text] His Excellency Sa'id Ahmad ash-Shanfari, minister of petroleum and minerals, has stated the sultanate will maintain a rate of production that will reach 330,000 barrels a day over the years of the current 5-year plan in view of the financing of the development requirements within the framework of the royal directives of His Majesty Sultan Qabus to increase the country's national income. He said the new petroleum discoveries in the southern area augur well for the future of our petroleum production. The minister added: if we maintain the same rate of production, we will prolong the life of our petroleum production and achieve continuity of production, in addition to the attempts being made to search for new fields.

He went on: The ministry's second 5-year plan comprises numerous projects: 121 million riyals have been earmarked for implementing these projects, among them an oil refinery project, work on which is expected to end in the middle of next year. Its total cost is 30 million riyals. The production capacity will reach 50,000 barrels a day. The plan also includes completion of the copper project in Suhar with a capacity of 20,000 tons a year, work on which will end next summer, in addition to the gas pipeline project from (Al-Murayrat) to Suhar, whose cost is $40 million [currency as heard] for supplying the copper mining project with power. The project also aims at encouraging industries on Al-Batinah coast, in addition to providing a cheap source for operating electricity stations with fuel. The plan also includes increasing the production capacity of the government gas plant. The plan also includes several projects for various studies, such as studying petroleum deposits and petrochemicals and surveys of mineral resources.

QATAR

PAPERS VIEW KISSINGER'S MIDDLE EAST TOUR

JN071646 Doha QNA in Arabic 1400 GMT 7 Jan 81

[Text] Doha, 7 Jan (QNA)--In today's editorials, the Qatari papers warned of the results of former U.S. Secretary of State Henry Kissinger's tour of the Arab region, which is intended to create disputes among the Arab states and to preoccupy them with international disputes, at the expense of their stability and the development needs in the Arab region.

The AR-RAYAH paper warns of continuous U.S. efforts to enter the region with military facilities, as the Soviet Union has done in Ethiopia and other states, and of the repercussions of such an intervention in terms of cold or active wars, which would not serve the major Arab issues, particularly the Palestinian cause.

The paper also says that Kissinger has tried to drag Jordan into negotiations with Israel and to turn Jordan into a substitute to the Palestinians. Jordan was aware of this and refused to receive Kissinger.

The paper draws attention to the fact that Kissinger is not planning for a just peace and that he does not consider Middle East stability in his plans, because such stability and peace would preoccupy the area with its development needs, the search for its rights and the rejection of any political or military intervention in the region. This would mean the end of current U.S. policy, which hopes to impose U.S. interests and influence through Israel and at the expense of Arab interests.

Concluding its commentary AR-RAYAH says that the Arab states should review their calculations and should hasten to unify their plans and stands before events overtake them. Otherwise, the Arab states will face more difficulties and complications in the coming stage, in which Kissinger will occupy the position of the topmost planner of U.S. policy in the Middle East.

The AL-'ARAB paper says: As a Zionist Jew, Kissinger's goals are Zionist goals. His moves were and still are intended to serve U.S. and Zionist objectives, which are all serious and aggressive, threatening Arab security and the fateful Arab issue. In this respect the paper refers to Kissinger's support for Israel's decision to make Jerusalem the unified capital of the Zionist entity and to Kissinger's rejection of any European role in achieving a settlement in the region if this European move differs from the U.S. move, which disregards the just Arab rights and concentrates on achieving all Zionist goals.

The paper asserts that Kissinger's tour of the region is intended to create Arab disputes, through the introduction of his ideas for solving the Arab issue, in order to dismantle the unified Arab stand.

Concluding its editorial the paper calls upon the Arab states to unify their stands and to reject the grave U.S. move, in order to preserve stability in the region and to protect it against foreign dangers.

UAE

ABU DHABI OIL COMPANY TO INCREASE CAPITAL

GF091130 Dubayy KHALEEJ TIMES in English 9 Jan 81 pp 1, 18

[Text] The Abu Dhabi National Oil Company (ADNOC) was increasing its capital from 200 million dirhams to 7.5 billion dirhams, Dr Mahmud Hamra' (Kruha), director general of ADNOC, told a press conference in Abu Dhabi yesterday. The increase was fully paid up and was being entirely met from the profits of ADNOC in recent years.

The company made a profit of DH 16 billion during the 1972-79 period and at the end of 1979 the company's assets were estimated at DH 3.5 billion.

Dr (Kruha) said the capital was being increased to meet the cost of ADNOC's expanding activities and the massive projects set for construction, in addition to the need for more capital to implement future plans.

He said the increase was proposed by the board recently and was approved by the company's executive council on Sunday and later by the Abu Dhabi executive council on Monday.

The increase, Dr (Kruha) said, was a reflection of the support that the company received from the government.

He estimated that the expenditure on investment plans included in the company's next 5-year plan (1981-1986) would be DH 38 billion.

The next 5-year plan, Dr (Kruha) added, would include increased exploration and production of oil and gas. The productivity of the producing oilfields would be increased by employing sophisticated scientific and technical methods, he added.

He said that the next few years would be marked by greater expansion of crude refining in the UAE through increasing the refining capacity of Umm an-Nar oil refinery, from 15,000 barrel to 75,000 barrels daily by 1983.

A second oil refinery in the industrial complex of Ar-Ruways was currently under construction with a projected capacity of 120,000 barrels a day. But Dr (Kruha) said that the capacity of the refinery would be increased to 300,000 barrels a day by 1984.

Following the operation of the Ar-Ruways refinery, ADNOC would provide the Emirates General Petroleum Corporation (EGPC) with oil products for distribution in the six northern emirates.

Expanding the oil refinery of Umm an-Nar, Dr (Kruha) said, would be followed by the implementation of other plans to enlarge its supporting units, such as power station, storage and cargo facilities.

The expansion of the refineries would be aimed at meeting local requirements as well as at exporting the surplus in order to diversify the country's revenue sources, he added.

Dr (Kruha) disclosed that ADNOC was reviewing the feasibility studies relating to several petrochemical projects as a first step toward taking necessary decisions for executing them. These projects included production of aromatics, lubricants and asphalt.

He told the conference that ADNOC would increase its tanker fleet. The company would buy eight tankers of various sizes in the near future to ship oil products in addition to two new tankers to transport crude. ADNOC now owned three tankers but hired six tankers in 1979 and seven last year to ship its crude.

ADNOC's director general said that large allocations would be made in future plans for gasfields, to meet the increased local demand for gas by the power stations, desalination plants, aluminum smelters, cement factories and petrochemical plants.

He also said ADNOC had completed a comprehensive study of the overall gas needs of the UAE, and was currently developing the Tamama gasfield G in the area of the Haqil al-Bab to achieve by 1983 a daily production 600 million cubic feet.

The projected increased production of Tamama G would be supplemented by other gasfields developed in the past, most important of which was Tamama F, with a daily production of 250 million cubic feet, used mainly for power stations in Abu Dhabi.

The next year plan, he said aimed at developing the associated gas fields on-shore to meet the requirements of industrial projects. This would be complemented by constructing a network of pipelines and storage tanks, expected to be completed by 1982.

ADNOC, Dr (Kruha) said, was close to completing another network pipelines from the on-shore gasfields to the gas liquefaction plant at Ruwais, and was thinking of building another pipeline from the on-shore fields to the nitrate fertiliser plant under construction in the industrial complex of Ar-Ruway. The plant was scheduled to go into operation in mid-1983 but there already were plans to expand its capacity by adding new units for producing ammonia.

Commenting on the financing policies of ADNOC, Dr (Kruha) said that its borrowing from the UAE national banks to finance the operations of the petroleum services companies was within the general national policy to increase the level of financial activity within the country. Increased profit making for national banks was a great incentive for better productivity and competition on an international scale, he said and added that ADNOC borrowed outside the country only when the lender was a partner in the project and offered better conditions than those prevailing in the markets. This, Dr (Kruha) said, was no indication that the company lacked the necessary funding.

PDRY

FOREIGN MINISTER OUTLINES ARAB TOUR, DEPARTS

LD082012 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 8 Jan 81 EA

[Text] Brother Salim Salih Muhammad, member of the Central Committee and foreign minister, left Aden this morning for Beirut at the start of an Arab tour during which he will deliver written messages from Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the Central Committee, chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council and chairman of the Council of Ministers, to a number of Arab leaders.

In a statement to the ADEN NEWS AGENCY shortly before his departure, Brother Salim Salih Muhammad said: In this tour we will deliver written messages from Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the Central Committee, chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council and prime minister; to Hafiz al-Asad; Ilyas Sarkis; Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi; Yasir 'Arafat; His Highness Amir Jabir al-Ahmad as-Sabah; of Syria, Lebanon, the Libyan Jamahiriyah, the PLO and the State of Kuwait, respectively. He added: This tour concerns the exchange of opinions and viewpoints on recent development of support for Democratic Yemen's firm stand toward these developments. This is embodied in the stressing and reinforcing of Arab solidarity opposed to imperialism and Zionism and the rest of the Camp David sides, and in confronting the increasing imperialist and Zionist onslaught whose dangers have begun to loom up with arrogance in the tendencies of the new American administration which incites in order to deepen discord, dissipate potentials, sharpen tension, threaten peace and stability in the area and in the world and act hostilely toward the just national and pan-Arab causes of our people, headed by the Palestinian cause.

During this tour we will also hold meetings with brother foreign ministers of the sisterly states. It will be a good opportunity for discussing all these situations and a means of joint coordination toward them. He said: This tour will also afford us the opportunity of discussing means of rendering successful the forthcoming Islamic summit conference in a manner that will serve the Arab struggle for recovering holy Jerusalem, liberating the occupied Arab territories and restoring the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people to self-determination and establishing their independent, national state under the leadership of the PLO.

Aspects of developing bilateral relations between Democratic Yemen and the sisterly countries will be the object of our discussions and attention to serve the advancement and development of our people and the development of relations between our country and the sisterly countries and brotherly peoples.

CHIEF OF GENERAL STAFF REPLACED; AMBASSADOR NAMED

LD081630 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 0330 GMT 8 Jan 81 EA

[Summary] Chairman 'Ali Nasir Muhammad has issued a decree of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council appointing Salih Abu Bakr ibn Husaynun ambassador at the Foreign Ministry.

Another decree appointed Lt Col Abdullah Ali ('Ali Nasr) first deputy defense minister and chief of the general staff.

FORMER AMBASSADOR APPOINTED MINISTER OF HEALTH

LD071550 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 7 Jan 81 EA

[Excerpt] The Council of Ministers held its regular meeting yesterday evening under the chairmanship of Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council and chairman of the Council of Ministers.

At the beginning of the meeting Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad welcomed brother Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz ad-Dali, who has returned to assume his new duties as minister of health. Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad congratulated him, in the name of the council, on being awarded the order of friendship with peoples by the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium in appreciation of the efforts he exerted to strengthen the bonds of Soviet-Yemeni friendship, and praised the efforts which he exerted in the diplomatic corps. Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad wished him success in his new job.

MINISTRY APPEALS TO AFRICANS, BREAKS CHAD TIES

NC082042 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1943 GMT 8 Jan 81

[Excerpts] Cairo, 8 Jan (MENA)--In a statement issued today, Egypt warned the fraternal African states in particular and the world community in general about the seriousness of Col al-Qadhdhafi's plots in Chad.

The following is the text of the statement that was released by a responsible source at the Egyptian Foreign Ministry tonight:

The world media have reported the Tripoli statement about the decision of Libya's Al-Qadhdhafi and head of the Transitional Government of National Unity in Chad Goukouni about their intention to merge both countries.

The government of the Arab Republic of Egypt feels dutybound to draw the attention of the fraternal African states in particular and the world community in general to the seriousness of the plots hatched by Libya's Al-Qadhdhafi to fulfill dreams of controlling the independent African states neighboring him at the expense of the stability, security and freedom of people in this sensitive part of the world.

This unity does not come as a result of the free will of the Libyan and Chadian people. It is the result of an overt Libyan military occupation of Chad and armed terrorism. Furthermore, the head of the transitional Chadian Government at present enjoys neither the legitimacy nor the freedom to take such a fateful decision after his violation of the Lagos agreement on Chadian national unity and after allowing Libya's flagrant occupation of Chad, as a result of which the Chadian people have been deprived at their freedom, independence and right to self-determination and have become captives of Libyan terrorism, unable to decide freely on matters relating to their sovereignty and independence.

Egypt, therefore, appeals to the fraternal African states to stand firm against the plots of Libya's Al-Qadhdhafi against African states, beginning with Chad, and calls on these states to work together for the evacuation of the Libyan forces from the territories of fraternal countries, against interference in their domestic affairs and against Al-Qadhdhafi's impsoing his military occupation on them. This would enable the fraternal Chadian people to freely and independently achieve national reconciliation and--with the OAU's help--hold free and just elections that would produce a stable national authority to rebuild the country and promote security and stability.

In view of this situation, Egypt sees no reason for continuing its diplomatic representation in Ndjamena for the time being because this representation will not have the opportunity to serve its purpose in the interests of the Egyptian, Chadian and fraternal Africa peoples.

NORMALIZATION DEPARTMENT CHIEF INTERVIEWED

LD090921 Cairo ROSE AL-YUSUF in Arabic 5 Jan 81 pp 9-10

[Interview granted to 'Isam 'Abd al-'Aziz by Ambassador Hasan Rashwan, official in charge of the Foreign Ministry's Department for the Normalization of Relations--place and date not given]

[Excerpt] I asked the top official responsible for the normalization of relations: Can the peace initiative be regarded as the beginning of the phase of the normalization of relations?

Ambassador Hasan Rashwan said: The peace initiative is regarded as the beginning of the road toward a new method for solving issues among disputing parties by peaceful means leading to a comprehensive and just solution of the Middle East problem.

However, the initiative was not the actual beginning of the phase of normalization of relations. President as-Sadat's speech to the Israeli Knesset constitute a charting of the general framework of Egyptian policy in the move toward peace. Consequently, the initiative marked the beginning of a cultural dialogue and genuine achievements on the road to solving the Middle East problem in all its aspects.

The actual beginning of the phase of negotiations to lay sound foundations for the relationship between Egypt and Israel came in the Camp David agreement. The initiative marked the beginning of long and difficult negotiations lasting over 16 months, during which numerous meetings were held between President as-Sadat and Menahem Begin, until the conclusion of the Camp David agreement which marked the actual beginning of the normalization of relations.

[Question] How is work progressing in the committees for the normalization of relations?

Ambassador Hasan Rashwan replied: There are several intertwined factors which render the process of laying sound foundations for the Egyptian-Israeli relations difficult. These factors include the nature of the Egyptian situation and commitments and Israeli ideas and views in addition to the general political climate surrounding the peace efforts aimed at resolving the issue.

Despite this, nine auxiliary agreements have been signed for the normalization of relations, in addition to the numerous memoranda of understanding the two countries have signed. These lay sound foundations for many aspects related to trade, tourism, culture, aviation and agriculture and also to the right of Palestinians to move between the two countries for family reunions we must not forget that Egypt and Israel exchanged diplomatic representation at the highest level last February.

The implementation of some already ratified agreements for the normalization of relations, has begun while the implementation of others will begin as soon as they are ratified by the Egyptian People's Assembly and the Israeli Knesset. Nor must we forget the efforts the Egyptian negotiator has exerted to reach a sound basis for the normalization of relations in the light of the Egyptian strategy to achieve a comprehensive and just peace in the area. The Israeli negotiator himself has testified to the high technical standard of the Egyptian negotiator and his pan-Arab loyalty and adherence to Egypt's responsibilities toward the other parties to the Arab-Israeli conflict and to the Arab interests before the Egyptian interests.

We succeeded in formalizing the agreements for the normalization of relations last May. The implementation of these agreements will begin as soon as they are ratified. Despite this, work is continuing in the committees for the normalization of relations in order to resolve the problems that are hindering implementation.

I said: Does this mean that the normalization of relations has not been affected by the negotiations on the other aspects of the issue, such as the autonomy problem and the problem of Jerusalem, for example?

The director of the Foreign Ministry's Department for the Normalization of Relations said: The peace-making process is regarded as a complete whole comprising many aspects such as the problem of Jerusalem, the problem of autonomy, Israel's security requirements and the normalization of relations--all of which are aspects of the issue which affect one another.

What is required in the field of the normalization of relations is the laying of sound and lasting foundations the Egyptian-Israeli relations under the canopy of comprehensive and just peace. This necessitates diplomatic exchange between the two countries as well as cooperation in some economic, cultural and other fields.

The relations between us and Israel are no more than normal relations between two countries, just like Egypt's relations with any state in the world. Despite this, it cannot be said that the relations normalization process is taking place separately from the other aspects of the Middle East problem as an all-embracing issue. Normalization is in itself a part of a whole. This is why some difficulties have been encountered in the negotiations on the normalization of relations.

[Question] How did these difficulties come about?

Ambassador Hasan Rashwan replied: The difficulties which faced the committees for the normalization of relations arose because of the Israeli side's hard line on certain matters during the negotiations whereas the Egyptian side was eager to shoulder its responsibilities. By nature, the Israeli negotiator wants to speed up the implementation of many of the clauses of the normalization agreements while the Egyptian side is eager to accomplish these things on a sound basis that conforming to Egypt's pan-Arab and economic interests, stressing at every phase of the negotiations the rights of the Palestinian people and the rights of the parties concerned to join the peace process and setting aside slogans that have been proved futile. The Israeli negotiator continues to retain some old ideas about the Palestinians and this is what is obstructing the peace process.

On the other hand, the Egyptian negotiator is trying to eliminate these obstacles by trying to convince the Israeli side and to make it change its understanding of the Palestinian people's issue which is supported by the international organization and to which President as-Sadat adhered in his speech to the Knesset when he embarked on his initiative.

I asked the director of the normalization of relations: Do the visits of some Israeli personalities to Egypt contribute to the momentum of the peace process?

He said: The visits of some Israeli personalities to Egypt, the most recent being Yitzhaq Navon, have helped in encouraging those Israelis who are concerned with the normalization of relations to understand the Egyptian views and to respond to them. This gives momentum to the process of normalizing relations on a sound basis and, at the same time, minimizes the Israeli side's tendency to achieve quick propaganda gains instead of establishing sound relations between the two countries--relations that would bring about stability under the canopy of comprehensive peace.

[Question] But what are the reasons which make Israel eager to speed up the normalization of relations?

Ambassador Hasan Radwan said: As-Sadat's historic initiative is an event which neither the Israelis, nor even their senior officials who expressed astonishment at it in their official statements, ever imagined would take place. This explains their eagerness to speed up the relations normalization process. They want to feel the effects of peace following the achievement of normalization.

I asked him: Are not the economic problems in Israel regarded as an influential factor in the Israeli stand?

He replied: Facts indicate that the Israeli economy is encountering some difficulties represented by the rise in the rate of inflation and the balance of payments deficit. These factors prompt the Israeli side to try to speed up the process of normalizing relations between Egypt and Israel. Perhaps this is the reason which makes the Israeli side give rein to its imagination in drawing the picture of economic cooperation with Egypt the way it likes. Many Israeli proposals have been made for cooperation with Egypt because it has the labor and the market, as well as the Arab capital which can be attracted. There are many joint trade and industrial projects which Israel wants to implement in Egypt. Despite this, the Egyptian side has not denied Israel the right to put forward its views. However, we give first consideration to Egypt's national interests and Arab rights.

PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY MEMBERS DONATE PAY TO AFGHANS

LD091025 Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic 6 Jan 81 p 1

[Excerpt] The leader of the National Front of Mojahedin of Afghanistan declared before the People's Assembly yesterday that the mojahedin received real aid only from Egypt. They have asked the Islamic and Arab countries to give them political and material aid and these countries have made many promises, but so far, after 7 months, they have received nothing from them.

Sabghatollah Mojaddadi, the front's leader, said that he "thanks the Egyptian people and salutes their long struggle against all invaders--a struggle which was crowned with the great October victory under the leadership of the hero-leader Anwar as-Sadat, the faithful leader who erased the stigma of the 1967 defeat and previously saved Egypt from the Soviet octopus by expelling the Russian advisers from his country.

People's Assembly Speaker Sufi Abu Talib welcomed leaders of the National Front who attended yesterday's assembly meeting. He assured them that Egypt stands with them in their armed struggle and that the communist aggression against Afghanistan is a link in the chain of aggression aimed at the entire Islamic nation.

Deputy Prime Minister Dr Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din said that the Egyptian Government and people will continue to support the heroic Afghan people until they achieve full independence and the banner of Islam flies again over their territories.

Members of the People's Assembly decided to donate one month's pay to the Afghan mojahedin, and assembly employees gave one day's pay.

On the other hand, General Secretary of the Constituent Assembly of the League of Islamic and Arab Peoples Dr Sayyid Nawfal announced that donations for the mojahedin from the Port Said governorate totaled 750,000 pounds, in addition to donations in kind. He said that the Egyptian people's response to President as-Sadat's call to support the Afghan struggle reflects the desire of the Egyptian people and government to defend the land of Islam and its sanctuaries and to strengthen Islamic solidarity in the face of invasions and conspiracies.

MINISTER OF STATE GHALI VISITS ARGENTINA, CHILE

For Buenos Aires press agency reports on the visit to Argentina of Egyptian Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Butrus Ghali from 4 to 8 January, including reports on the scientific and technological cooperation agreement between Egypt and Argentina signed during the visit and on a press conference Ghali held in Buenos Aires on 7 January, see the Argentina section of the 5-9 January Latin America DAILY REPORTS. Also see the Chile section of the 9 January Latin America DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues for reportage on Ghali's visit to Chile beginning on 8 January.

IRAQI-YUGOSLAV COOPERATION COMMITTEE MEETS

GF081511 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 8 Jan 81

[Text] Meetings of the 6th session of the Iraqi-Yugoslav joint committee for technical and economic cooperation began in the secretariat of the Ministry of Trade this morning.

The Iraqi side was led by RCC member and Minister of Trade Hasan 'Ali [as heard] and the Yugoslav side was led by deputy premier for economic affairs Zivone Dragan.

At the beginning of the meeting, Hasan 'Ali welcomed the Yugoslav delegation and wished them a pleasant stay in the Iraq of the 17 July revolution. He also told the delegation that they would have the opportunity to become acquainted with the victories and achievements of our great nation under the leadership of President Saddam Husayn in our battle against the aggressive Persians, and to become acquainted with the real battle Iraq is waging to affirm its rights over its waters and land. He asserted Iraq's intentions of expanding the scope of friendship and cooperation with Yugoslavia within the framework of the nonaligned movement and emphasized the active role played by Iraq and Yugoslavia within this movement. He reviewed the progress of economic bilateral relations during the past years and the substantial increase in bilateral trade.

The head of the Yugoslav delegation expressed his gratitude for the warm welcome the delegation has received and said that his country will continue to bolster its economic and friendly relations with Iraq, based on the directives of both friendly countries, the esteemed place they occupy within the nonaligned movement, their hostility toward colonialism and the goals put forth by the leadership in both countries.

The joint committee will hold meetings for 3 days, during which it will discuss means of expanding economic and technical cooperation and the 1981 bilateral trade plan, which will be put forth by the economic, trade, agriculture and irrigation, and scientific and technical cooperation committees.

The Iraqi delegation includes Public Works and Housing Ministry Under Secretary Shakir Mahmud, representatives of the Ministries of Trade, Industry and Minerals, Public Works and Housing, Planning and Agricultural and Agrarian Reform, and representatives of the Central Bank of Iraq and the Iraqi Fund for Foreign Development. The Yugoslav delegation includes Agriculture Ministry Under Secretary (Ranco Adolvich), Industry and Energy Ministry Under Secretary (Drashco Nakitsh), a number of economic affairs specialists and the Yugoslav ambassador in Baghdad.

PALESTINIAN MAGAZINE'S SUPPORT CITED BY RADIO

JN081830 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 8 Jan 81

[Text] ATH-THA'IR AL-'ARABI magazine, mouthpiece of the Arab Liberation Front, has said that the clear and decisive Iraqi victory over Iran has been a great shock to the United States, which wants to place the Arab Gulf directly at its mercy by use of fleets, bases and facilities or by means of agents linked to the United States.

The magazine said that the United States could not tolerate the Iraqi victory and that it will confront it either directly or through other parties. The United States will always remember that it was Iraq which nationalized its interests and confronted its plans from a strong and capable stand.

The magazine warned that Henry Kissinger's return to the region is directed at placing the region back under U.S. influence by utilizing a network of local supporters and by aborting the Iraqi triumph because Washington does not want to find itself facing a victorious, capable and strong opponent in the oil region.

The magazine stressed that supporting Iraq's victory and strengthening it with Arab backing will enable the eastern front of the Arab homeland to remain an invincible front capable of confronting all the imperialist attempts in the Arab Gulf.

NAVAL COMMANDER CITED ON FORCES' CAPABILITY

JN082000 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1910 GMT 8 Jan 81

[Faruq Shukri report]

[Text] Basra, 8 Jan (INA)--The staff brigadier general, commander of the naval force and coastal defense, has said that the naval battles waged by the Iraqi forces since the beginning of the war to date have shaped a new combat style for our future naval battles.

He stressed that after 4 months of fighting, the Iraqi naval forces are now enjoying a combat position that enables them to protect our national waters against any Persian naval aggression.

In a statement to the INA team in the southern sector, he pointed out that our naval forces have day and night capability to confront the racist Persian enemies with the same high efficiency demonstrated in the previous naval battles.

He added that some time after the outbreak of fighting the Iranian enemy received additional foreign aid at the urging of the U.S. administration and the Zionist enemy. However, this aid will not create a qualitative change in the enemy's naval capabilities.

He pointed out that the battles waged by our naval units during the past period and the feats of our brave heroes expose the falsehood of the enemy claims of victories. Available data show that the enemy has lost several naval vessels in the battles waged on the high seas. Most of them were destroyed at the head of the Arab Gulf and at the entrance to Musa Bay.

In addition, Iraqi naval fighters have emphasized their high capability to confront the Persian enemy and inflict heavy losses on him should he approach our national waters and coasts. They explained that our naval weapons and vessels are sufficient to counter any adventure the racist Persian enemy may undertake.

They said that the Iraqi figher's bravery as demonstrated during the previous naval battles forced the racist Persian enemy to reconsider his calculations. The fighters also explained that what counts is not the quality of the naval vessel, but the human being that is running it. What they have learned from the past combat lessons makes them today stronger and more determined to crush any hostile move.

ARMED FORCES COMMAND ISSUES BATTLE COMMUNIQUES

Communique No 206

JN081735 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1650 GMT 8 Jan 81

[Communique No 206 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 8 January 1981]

[Text] Baghdad, 8 Jan (INA)--In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate:

Our bold armed forces are effectively and capably controlling the operations theater. They are continuing to deal destructive blows to the Magian Persian enemy, inflicting further losses in equipment and lives. Following are the results of the military activities for last night and today:

I. The ground forces:

A. Our units in Sar-e Pol-e Zahab opened fire on an enemy troop concentration, killing seven. The rest took to their heels.

B. An enemy infantry force, supported by tanks, attacked our positions in Gilan-e Gharb region. Our forces clashed with it with all sorts of weapons and forced it to retreat, leaving behind 201 dead, 3 tanks, 1 armored personnel carrier and 1 106-mm gun. Our units in the same region destroyed one vehicle laden with hardware, one ammunition stockpile and one rocket launcher. The enemy again tried to attack our positions in the same region, but our units confronted him violently with all kinds of weapons, forcing him to flee after sustaining 167 dead and 2 tanks lost.

C. The enemy in the region opposite our positions in Sayf Sa'd sustained 10 dead. In addition, five various kinds of vehicles, three ammunition stockpiles and one cylindrical launcher were destroyed.

D. Three of the enemy were killed in Mehran region.

E. One enemy vehicle was destroyed in Shush region.

F. Clashes between our valiant forces and the enemy forces continued in the Dezful region throughout the night. The enemy sustained the following losses during these clashes: 310 were killed and 32 tanks, 8 TOW missile launchers and 6 ammunition stockpiles were destroyed. The battles are still continuing the hour this communique was prepared.

G. Our valiant forces in the Khafajiyah [Susangerd] region continue to strike and destroy the retreating ignorant enemy forces, inflicting heavy losses in equipment and lives. Our forces are still chasing the defeated enemy remnants the hour this communique was prepared.

H. Seven of the enemy were killed in Ahvaz region.

I. Our units in Abadan region inflicted the following losses on the enemy: Five were killed and two vehicles, one carrying troops, were destroyed. In addition, a number of vehicles and a black car believed to be carrying a Persian official were destroyed at Abadan-(Shaykh Budayr) axis.

J. Our fighter planes today shot down three enemy helicopters when the latter tried to raid our positions in Ahvaz region. Our ground fire also shot down an enemy Phantom plane in the same region.

II. Today our fighter planes launched 12 raids on enemy military targets in Khafajiyah region, scoring direct hits against a large number of the enemy armor and vehicles. Our planes returned safely to base.

Accordingly, the total known enemy losses is 710 dead as well as 39 tanks, 1 armored personnel carrier, 15 vehicles, 2 guns, 10 ammunition stockpiles, 9 rocket launchers, 1 armored vehicle, 1 cylindrical launcher and 4 planes.

III. Our losses:

A. In personnel: 40 martyrs in all sectors.

B. In equipment: The following were damaged: 30 tanks, 4 personnel carriers, 6 vehicles, 4 guns, 1 rocket launcher and 3 excavators.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 8 January 1981

Communique No 207

JN082016 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1950 GMT 8 Jan 81

[Communique No 207 issued by the Armed Forces General Command 8 January 1981]

[Text] Baghdad, 8 Jan (INA)--In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate:

Our victorious armed forces in the Khafajiyah and Dezful regions continued to pursue and destroy the retreating enemy remnants today, inflicting the following heavy losses in equipment and lives:

I. Known enemy losses:

A. In Khafajiyah Region:

1. In personnel: 300 dead.
2. In equipment: 45 damaged and serviceable tanks, 3 guns and a large number of vehicles left behind by the fleeing enemy were seized. Twenty enemy tanks were also destroyed.

B. In Dezful region:

1. In personnel: 52 dead.
2. In equipment: One gun and one vehicle laden with hardware were destroyed.

II. Our losses:

A. In personnel: 31 martyrs.
B. In equipment: Six tanks were damaged.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 8 January 1981

COMMANDERS SAY IRANIAN FORCES RETREATING

JN090833 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0800 GMT 9 Jan 81

[Text] Baghdad, 9 Jan (INA)--An Iraqi military commander in the Khafajiyah [Susangerd] sector has told the ATH-THAWRAH team that the Iranian enemy forces have started to retreat and withdraw after sustaining grave losses in life and equipment. In a statement published in the paper today, the commander said that the Iraqi tanks and armored cars have successfully crushed the Iranian forces on the Karkheh River banks and surrounded their renmants in several pockets that are within the range of Iraqi fire. The commander added that the enemy personnel sustained grave losses in tanks, vehicles and guns.

In its report, which is supported by photographs, the team said that Iraqi planes raided enemy positions and the concentrations of its remnants several times and that columns of black smoke were seen rising after every Iraqi raid. This confirms that the enemy military positions were burned.

In another development, ATH-THAWRAH publishes a statement by a military commander in the central sector saying that the Iraqi forces developed their combat tactics the day before yesterday and launched an all-out attack on all lines of confrontation, inflicting grave losses in life and equipment on the enemy. He added that the Iraqi forces have intensified this attack since dawn yesterday and advanced toward the enemy camps and fortifications. Our armed forces managed to destroy several enemy military positions and to comb a number of villages in which the enemy was deployed.

The team said that it saw how the enemy remnants were chased along the Karkheh River and how the enemy personnel retreated in terror to hide in the woods on the other bank of the river. The team said that the oil pipes which supply Dezful with oil were destroyed and set afire.

ANTIREGIME RADIO CALLS FOR UNITY AGAINST BAGHDAD

JN081843 (Clandestine) Voice of Iraqi Revolution in Surani Kurdish 1520 GMT 7 Jan 81

[Unattributed commentary: "In Whose Interest Are the Scattered Guns?"]

[Text] Since the very first day of its establishment, the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan has been trying to unite those patriotic and revolutionary forces which have chosen the road of struggle against the fascist regime in Baghdad without falling under the hegemony of any imperialist power.

There is no force in the world which can take up arms and achieve liberation all by itself, unless it allies itself with the majority of patriotic and revolutionary forces in a democratic patriotic front. The history of the revolutions carried out by the Iraqi patriotic front has proved that no tangible results can be obtained if parties are not united. Therefore, one must close ranks with the patriotic and progressive forces to wage the struggle. The struggle and solidarity must be based on centralized democratic foundations. [Words indistinct] the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan has adopted the course of unity, taking into consideration cohesion among the forces and not the road of [word indistinct]. All honest patriotic Kurds have a right to struggle for the sake of the people and the homeland. If a force appears and claims that it alone represents Kurdish rights, first of all this is unrealistic, and second this force will bring harm to itself and expose itself to many problems. It will also face the denunciation and condemnation of the people. If, however, such a force has principles and defends rights, the people will choose it as their representative without there being any need for it to claim such a right because the people are the sole party vested with authority and they are the party which creates power and gives it momentum.

Our Patriotic Union of Kurdistan has as its objective the establishment of cooperation, solidarity and brotherhood, enhancing the people's role. We shall never harm our people's struggle [words indistinct] to safeguard these interests.

KURDISH RADIO SUPPORTS PALESTINIAN STATE

JN021804 (Clandestine) Voice of Iraqi Kurdistan in Bahdinani Kurdish 1600 GMT 2 Jan 81

[Text] Greetings to the militant Fatah organization.

Dear listeners: The 1st of January coincides with the anniversary of the establishment of the militant Palestinian organization Fatah. It is the anniversary of Fatah's embarkation on the path of armed struggle to restore the Palestinian people's usurped rights.

On this occasion and on behalf of our Kurdish people, the Kurdistan Democratic Party and our peshmerga send greetings to our brothers in the Fatah organization and to all brothers in the other factions of the Palestinian revolution under the leadership of the PLO. On this occasion, we reaffirm our full support for the struggle of the friendly Palestinian people to establish an independent nationalist Palestinian state and to fight imperialism, Zionism and reaction.

Long live the Arab-Kurdish brotherhood!

Long live the victorious Palestinian revolution!

Victory is the lot of peoples!

BRIEFS

NEW MOROCCAN AMBASSADOR--Foreign Minister Dr Sa'dum Hammadi received the new Moroccan ambassador to Iraq, Abdeslam Znined, this morning. He received a copy of his credentials during the meeting. [Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 7 Jan 81 GF]

SARKIS TO ATTEND ISLAMIC SUMMIT CONFERENCE

NC071329 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 7 Jan 81

[Excerpt] At 1145 today the Cabinet held its regular weekly meeting under the chairmanship of President Ilyas Sarkis and in the presence of Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan and the ministers. Following the meeting which ended at 1400, Cabinet Secretary General Dr 'Umar Mussaykah made the following statement:

The Cabinet discussed the overall situation in the country and Lebanon's participation in the Islamic summit conference to be held in At-Ta'if, Saudi Arabia, on 25 January 1981. After deliberating, it was decided to form the Lebanese delegation to this conference under the chairmanship of President Ilyas Sarkis. The members of the delegation will include Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign and Expatriates Affairs Fu'ad Butrus, Minister of State Joseph Abu Khatir and other high-ranking state officials.

The Cabinet also decided to form the Lebanese delegation to the Islamic states foreign ministers conference which will precede the summit conference. The delegation will be headed by Minister of State Joseph Abu Khatir and will include a number of ambassadors and Foreign Ministry officials.

PRESIDENT SARKIS RECEIVES PDRY FOREIGN MINISTER

NC081244 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 8 Jan 81

[Excerpts] At 1200 today President Ilyas Sarkis received PDRY Foreign Minister Salim Sa'd Muhammad, who handed him a private message from PDRY President 'Ali Nasir Muhammad.

The PDRY foreign minister arrived in Beirut this morning on a 2-day visit.

COMMUNIQUE ISSUED ON DELEGATION'S BULGARIA VISIT

For the joint communique issued on the visit to Bulgaria by a Lebanese Communist Party delegation, published in RABOTNICHESKO DELO on 6 January, see the Bulgaria section of the 9 January Eastern Europe DAILY REPORT.

SYRIAN FORCES COMPLETE WITHDRAWAL FROM ZAHLAH

NC082130 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 2015 GMT 8 Jan 81

[Text] The Syrian forces have completed their withdrawal from Zahlah following a brief (?ceremony) at the [word indistinct] hotel that was attended by various security and political leaders.

The withdrawal operation was supervised by the commander of the Zahlah gendarmerie company, who was assisted by members of the internal security forces.

This measure was preceded by meetings both at B'abda palace between the president and the three Zahlah ministers and in Shtawrah among pertinent parties.

PAPER PUBLISHES 'DOCUMENT' ON U.S. AID TO JORDAN

NC091024 Paris AFP in English 1002 GMT 9 Jan 81

[Text] Damascus, 9 Jan (AFP)--The Syrian daily newspaper ATH-THAWRAH today published what it described as a secret American document covering 13 military financing and security assistance programs accorded Jordan by the United States.

The newspaper also published a photocopy of an introductory statement in English that accompanied the document and another paper, in English and Arabic, that shows in detail the amounts provided for the assistance programs, covering a period from 1979 to 1989.

According to the documents published by ATH-THAWRAH, the United States provided 41,020,000 dollars in military assistance in 1979, a considerable increase over the 28,300,000 dollars of the previous year.

The documents showed that grants for security programs for the same period totalled 102,688,000 dollars.

Under the military and security assistance programs, the United States agreed to furnish Jordan with modern arms and equipment, the documents showed. Among the items stipulated were C-130 transport planes and antiaircraft and antitank rockets.

The documents also provided for training in the United States of Jordanian instructors so that the level of teaching in Jordanian and Arab Peninsula military schools could be raised.

According to the Syrian newspaper, the documents stated that Jordan would receive permanent military and economic assistance from the United States.

ATH-THAWRAH also said that the documents linked on-going assistance with the establishment of an Arab-Israeli peace and insisted that such aid was not intended to alter the regions military equilibrium.

The secret document unveils the complicity between Washington and Amman, the newspaper said, adding that the United States had given (Jordan's) King Husayn the role of liquidating the Palestinian cause, establishing an Arab-Israeli peace and consolidating American interests in the region.

Syria recently concentrated troops along its border with Jordan, which led Amman to send troops to the frontier region. Fears of an armed conflict subsided after Saudi diplomatic efforts led to the withdrawal of both countries' troops.

KHADDAM ADDRESSES 'HUGE' FATAH RALLY 8 JAN

JN090827 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0515 GMT 9 Jan 81

[Text] Damascus--The Fatah movement held a huge rally at Tishrin's sports hall yesterday evening on the occasion of the 16th anniversary of the Palestinian revolution. The rally was attended by several Ba'th Party national and regional command members; 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister; Khalid al-Fahum, speaker of the Palestine National Council; several members of the Central Command of the Progressive National Front; Faruq Qaddumi, head of the PLO Political Department; Brig Gen Muhammad Tariq al-Kadra, chief of staff of the Palestine Liberation Army; members of the PLO Executive Committee; members of the Palestinian resistance factions; some members of the Arab and foreign diplomatic corps in Damascus; members of the People's Assembly; and a large crowd of Syrian and Palestinian citizens.

The rally began with a minute of silence in memory and honor of our Arab nation's martyrs. This was followed by a military parade by the Palestinian revolution's cubs amid the applause of the masses praising Syria's steadfastness under the leadership of President Hafiz al-Asad.

At the outset of his address, 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, conveyed President Hafiz al-Asad's greetings and best wishes on the 16th anniversary of the Palestinian revolution. He added that the president would like to reaffirm that Syria will honor its pledge and will fight on your side, will defend you against any harm and will sacrifice blood. Syria asks you to fulfill one single condition; namely, to keep your head as lofty as that of your cause and to keep your arms brandished in the face of the enemy, collaborators and agents. This is the road of the revolution and the road of dignity.

Khaddam said that the road of the revolution is one of hopes and pains and that the other road is one devoted to seeking petty gains, middle-of-the-way solutions and settlements that annihilate rights; it is a blind alley for the revolutionaries and strugglers because it casts doubts on rights and entrenches the legality of the usurpers and aggressors.

Khaddam added: Your struggle has thwarted all sabotage attempts which sought to undermine the Palestine cause. He explained that the imperialist conspiratorial onslaught is now aimed against the pan-Arab existence and at liquidating the Palestine issue by entrenching the U.S. presence in the area and at strengthening the Zionist presence.

'Abd al-Halim Khaddam said: The Jordanian regime is presently seeking to play a planned role to liquidate the Palestine issue. The Jordanian regime is also looking for the so-called Jordanian option to be an alternative for the PLO and its will. He added that it has escaped the mind of the Jordanian regime that the Palestinian people, supported by Syria, are now stronger and more powerful than all agents and enemies.

Khaddam said: Imperialism, Zionism and their agents in the Arab homeland believe that an act of murder here or there in Syria and playing havoc with security here or there are bound to disrupt Syria's role or drown, isolate or weaken it. It escaped their minds that the Syrian people, led by their party and leader, will remain not only an obstacle, but a mighty stronghold in face of all schemes and all agents. They should study Syria's history so that they can realize well that Syria cannot but be for the Arabs and a base for Palestine and for the revolution of the Palestinian people.

Today, the imperialist circles are trying to dismember the Arab nation, to weaken the Arabs, to incite peripheral battles and to drown every Arab country with regional problems in order to obliterate the pan-Arab cause and to liquidate the Palestine issue. It escaped their minds that our masses throughout the Arab homeland cannot but remain vigilant and determined to crush these schemes and to preserve the Palestinian issue, the first and last issue of the Arabs. Nothing will preoccupy us but struggling and fighting to regain Palestine and so that our nation restores its dignity and honor.

Khaddam said: Imperialism is trying to exhaust the potentials of our nation in peripheral battles, as has been done by the Iraqi regime. The Iraqi regime has involved Iraq in a mad war, killing our sons in beloved Iraq, destroying them, exhausting their potentials and keeping them remote from the confrontation lines.

Why is this taking place? It is taking place for the sake of achieving leadership and power, getting involved in suspicious designs and punishing the Islamic revolution in Iran because the latter has stood against U.S. imperialism and has raised the slogan of the liberation of Palestine. The mad war is raging for all this, a war into which beloved Iraq has been dragged by a regime that has no mercy for its citizens and nation. This regime, however, will soon find that nobody will have mercy for it.

Brothers, we have raised the slogan of Arab solidarity against the Zionist enemy and U.S. imperialism in the hope that this would pave the way for any Arab side to reconsider its accounts, revise its stand and find a spacious place among us. We exerted every effort to stop the collapse in Arab relations in order to avoid any gaps that could be exploited by our nation's enemies. While exerting these efforts, we realized the big obstacles facing us, because we know well the position of every regime and the degree of involvement of those involved, particularly in Amman and Baghdad. For the sake of the nation, we dropped all reservations held in the past and called for realizing unity [wahdah] and federation [ittihad] with them in order to pave the way for the return and repentance.

Obviously, however, the size of involvement was much bigger than all our efforts, and we failed to protect them from harming themselves. The sound of evil in their hearts was much louder than the voice of their nation. Thus, they got involved in plots.

Khaddam said: We forgot everything about Jordan's long history of hostility against the nation and its cause. We even pardoned the massacres against the national figures and thousands of Palestinians provided it returned to the [Arab] nation. But the regime, which was imported from outside this country in order to be planted and to be a tool in the hands of the British and Americans, this alien and imported regime remained alien to this nation and its heart and mind remained outside the bounderies of the homeland. This regime's poison and plots remained within the homeland.

Khaddam asserted that Syria, which took upon itself the task of shouldering the nation's burdens, is strong and potent with its people's determination to give and sacrifice with all their material and moral potentials and is capable of destroying the plot and liquidating its roots.

He added: Syria is also capable of moving in all directions, of striking in all directions and of crushing the plots in all directions. Let our people in Jordan rest assured that Syria, the mother, will not leave them from now on to live under the canopy of a black regime, a regime whose main aim is to serve the nation's enemies, to kill the citizens and to attack the liberation and progressive movement in this homeland. Let our brothers in Amman, Jarash, Ma'an, Al-Karak and Al-'Aqabah rest assured that Syria today will not relinquish them and will not abandon them and that the lines demarcated by imperialism will not obstruct this. Not all the borders and barriers which were drawn up by British imperialism can obstruct us.

We will give aid to our people in Jordan until they liberate themselves and until Jordan returns to what he and our masses want it to be: A base for the Palestinian revolution, a base for the Palestinian strugglers and a base for liberation. The regime in Jordan should realize that if it continues its plots and its attempts to liquidate the Palestinian issue, it will from now on not benefit from any mediation or mediators and will see the size of its punishment by our Arab people in and outside Jordan.

Khaddam said: Let our beloved people in Lebanon rest assured that Syria stands with them with all its capabilities to regain their security, peace and national unity. No saboteurs will ever be able to achieve the illusions which they failed to achieve under French colonialism.

He said that Lebanon's unity will not be a subject of discussion or bargaining. There will never be any sectarianism, confederation or deferral. It will be one Arab Lebanon constituting a part of this nation. Those who are entertaining these illusions should realize that the overwhelming majority of our Arab people in Lebanon can no longer accept any sectarian domination and that no sectarian domination can achieve its illusions in beloved Lebanon.

Let our Palestinian brothers in Lebanon rest assured that Syria is with you while you are subjected to the Israeli attack. Our commitment to defending the Palestinian revolution is a part of our commitment to defending the Palestine issue.

Our Palestinian brothers in southern Lebanon: You are not alone and will never be alone. Syria is with you and is on your side. Your blood is ours and your existence is a trust which we will defend with all our strength, regardless of the cost.

Brothers, while we are facing this vicious and difficult battle, we in Syria or in Palestine are not alone. We have with us all the Arab nation's masses throughout the homeland. We are not alone against imperialism and Zionism. Today, all the world's peoples and their progressive forces, foremost of which are the socialist camp countries and the Soviet Union, are with us.

SECURITY FORCES KILL MUSLIM TERRORISTS IN DAMASCUS

JN081710 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 8 Jan 81

[Text] Damascus--This morning, the security forces succeeded in killing the fugitive criminal Ahmad Zayn al-'Abidin and another member of the Muslim Brotherhood gang in the Al-Hariqah Square in Damascus. This took place following a careful security surveillance of the criminal's activities and his hiding places.

Criminal Ahmad Zayn al-'Abidin had been pursued by the security forces for some time. He had carried out several killings and sabotage operations against the people and the homeland during the previous year; the latest crime being the assassination of martyr Dr Yusuf Sayigh.

AMMAN RADIO REPORTS ON CLASHES IN DAMASCUS

JN082008 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 8 Jan 81

[Text] Damascus has been the scene of several incidents involving killings, assassinations and armed clashes between groups opposed to the Syrian regime and Syrian security forces.

Arrivals from Syria mention that an armed clash took place between groups opposed to the Syrian regime and the Syrian security forces on the airport road in Damascus on Monday evening, 5 January 1981. Three persons hostile to the Syrian regime and two security forces members were killed during the incident; another member of the Syrian security forces was wounded.

The arrivals add that on Tuesday morning, 6 January 1981, the Syrian security forces attempted to storm the house of Ahmad 'Abd al-Mu'ti in the Al-Qabun quarter in Damascus. The security forces clashed with the owner of the house. Ahmad 'Abd al-Mu'ti was killed and his son wounded. The son was hospitalized.

Reports from the Syrian capital mention that funerals were held for a senior army officer with the rank of colonel and a lawyer on Tuesday afternoon, 6 January 1981. The two had been killed in the Ash-Sha'lan quarter in Damascus by elements hostile to the Syrian regime.

LIBYA

AL-'UBAYDI SPEAKS TO PRESS ON FOREIGN POLICY

LD090010 Tripoli Voice of Arab Homeland in Arabic 2315 GMT 8 Jan 81

[Text] Brother 'Abd al-'Ati al-'Ubaydi, secretary of the People's Committee of the People's Bureau for External Liaison, said at a press conference held tonight in Tripoli that the methods of dealing with peoples and the strengthening of our relations with them will be through the People's Committee of the People's Bureau for External Liaison and through people's bureaus abroad and the embassies of the state accredited to the Jamahiriyah. He explained that the Jamahiriyah is certain that this form of our people's experiment will consolidate our relations with sisterly and friendly peoples and will further promote these relations. He said it is regrettable that some states do not understand this experiment and that we stand ready to explain our views on this experiment, which is an irrevocable decision of the people.

Answering a question on whether the Jamahiriyah would treat reciprocally countries which do not recognize people's bureaus he said that we will be ready for dialogue and willing to explain the objectives of these bureaus before resorting to reciprocal treatment. On regarding the joint Libyan-Chadian communique, he said that it was the right of every two countries to agree to an action program and they were free to make their own decisions. He said that there was no need for the interference of any other state in such matters and confirmed once against the support of the Libyan people to its brother the Chadian people and its national government.

On the resolution of the General People's Congress concerning support of national liberation movements, he said that this resolution stemmed from the belief of the Libyan people in the freedom of man everywhere, confirming that the Jamahiriyah would continue to support these movements which defend the freedom and dignity of man everywhere. Brother al-'Ubaydi welcomed the invitation of the Tunisian prime minister, Mohamed Mzali, concerning the revival of Libyan-Tunisian relations and expressed the Jamahiriyah's readiness to consolidate cooperation and relations with Tunisia in order to deprive the colonialist countires of the chance to drive a wedge between our two peoples.

He spoke about Arab-American relations during the era of the new president, Reagan, and said that improvement of relations with the United States will be through its understanding of our fateful problems, without bias in favor of the Zionist enemy. He added that our relations with the American people were good and that the majority of the American people understood the truth about our stand.

MOROCCO

FRG SPOKESMAN SAYS HASSAN-SCHMIDT TALKS 'FRUITFUL'

LD081414 Rabat MAP in English 1219 GMT 8 Jan 81

[Text] Marrakech, 8 Jan (MAP)--The West German chancellor, Mr Helmut Schmidt and the delegation accompanying him left here Wednesday after an official visit to Morocco during which Mr Schmidt held political and economic talks with King Hassan II of Morocco after a dinner offered by the Moroccan monarch in his honor.

The delegations of the two countries also held a work session Wednesday under the chairmanship of Mr Maati Bouabid, Moroccan premier and minister of justice and Mr Schmidt.

While giving an account of these meetings, Dr Lothar Ruhl, deputy spokesman of the German Federal Government, announced that King Hassan II has favorably answered Mr Schmidt's invitation to undertake an official visit to West Germany adding that a similar invitation was addressed to the Moroccan premier and justice minister.

Dr Ruhl said about talks between the two parties that they were "extremely interesting and fruitful and were characterized by convergence of points of view on almost all the issues that were evoked."

The West German spokesman precised [as received] Mr Schmidt's report centers on the increase of investments and technical assistance to Morocco, and the increase in oil prices which causes economic recession and has a negative impact on the finances of developing countries and even of petroleum producing countries.

In this line, the spokesman affirmed his country's support to Morocco's appeal in view of deepening the North-South dialogue to avoid a crisis of economic stability in the world.

Talking about the Middle East problem, Dr Ruhl indicated that "there is an identity in the points of view of the two parties (Morocco and Germany), their positions being similar on the gist of the question."

Dr Ruhl also tackled the Moroccan-European Economic Community relations saying "the German Federal Republic will regularly hold consultations with the 'ten' to protect Moroccan interests" in the light of the enlargement of the European Community (EEC). He further indicated that the Moroccan party gave an account of the situation prevailing in the African north west.

It is to be recalled that Mr Bouabid offered Wedensday a lunch in the honor of the West German chancellor and the delegation accompanying him.

SUDAN

NUMAYRI RECEIVES CABLE ON CHAD FROM OAU CHAIRMAN

JN081920 Khartoum SUNA in English 1855 GMT 8 Jan 81

[Text] Khartoum, Jan 8 (SUMA)--Following text of cable sent by OAU Chairman Siaka Stevens to President Ja'far Numayri released by SUDAN NEWS AGENCY today:

President Numayri
Khartoum
(Sudan)
I am greatly concerned about what appears to be almost total handing over of the sovereign state of Chad to Libya by transitional President Goukouni who was given a temporary mandate by the Lagos accord to administer the territory until February 1981 by which time general elections should have been held and the people of Chad given an opportunity to elect their own government. It is my view that the ad hoc committee plus other parties concerned should hold an urgent meeting to consider the present situation.
Highest consideration
Siaka Stevns
Current chairman of the OAU

TUNISIA

FOREIGN MINISTER MEETS WITH ALGERIA'S BEN YAHIA

LD082050 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 8 Jan 81

[Excerpts] Foreign Minister Hassan Belkhodja this evening had talks with his Algerian counterpart, Mohamed Seddik Ben Yahia. It was learned that the talks, which lasted approximately 1 hour, provided an opportunity for an exchange of views on political issues of mutual interest relating to the region as well as international matters. Talks also dealt with bilateral relations and the work of the Tunisian-Algerian joint commission. Mohamed Seddik Ben Yahia, who will lead his country's delegation at the meeting of the Tunisian-Algerian joint commission, arrived in Tunis earlier this evening.

REPORTAGE ON POLITICAL SITUATION, ELECTION ISSUE

Alignment Bill

TA081228 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 8 Jan 81

[Text] The chairman of the Alignment faction has said that his faction will submit a bill for the dissolution of the Knesset next week. In his view, it will gain a majority and elections will be held within 100 days.

Begin's View

TA082003 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 8 Jan 81

[Text] The prime minister believes there is no way out of a Cabinet crisis and he expects that the finance minister will leave the Cabinet on Sunday. Our political correspondent reports that contrary to his former position, the prime minister now believes there is no need to continue struggling for the continued existence of the government.

After Mr Hurvitz resigns he will go to the president and will hand in his resignation, which would mean the resignation of the entire Cabinet. In this event the Likud will initiate action to hold elections in mid-June. Until then the prime minister will assume the responsibilities of the finance minister in the transition Cabinet.

Peres Remarks

TA081720 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 8 Jan 81

[Text] Shim'on Peres said today the Labor Party is interested in a short election campaign and will introduce a law calling for the holding of elections within 2 months after the decision. MK Peres spoke before the Labor Party center.

He said he will recommend that the cooling-off period for state workers wishing to be included in the Knesset candidates' lists be shortened. Peres emphasized again that his party has not and will not engage in deals with other parties, nor will it be a partner to covering up the Abu-Hatzera affair and the Afarseq [peach] case.

Burg Meetings

TA091742 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 9 Jan 81

[Text] MRP leader Minister Yosef Burg last night met for a long talk with Labor Party chairman Shim'on Peres. This has been learned by our party affairs correspondent Amnon Nadav. The talk was held privately in MK Peres' house. Among other things the two talked about the government crisis and the early elections issue. Today Minister Burg will meet with the prime minister to discuss the same issues.

Our correspondent reports that the NRP leaders are divided on the policy the NRP should adopt these days. The NRP ministers want to moderate MK Ben-Me'ir's call to initiate early elections. Our correspondent reports that the NRP still adheres to its position that Minister Hurvitz' resignation will create a new situation that will call for early elections. However, the NRP ministers do not want to appear to compel the prime minister to advance the elections, thus enabling him to initiate moves of his own.

Further Report

TA090842 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0827 GMT 9 Jan 81

[Text] A short while ago Interior Minister Burg presented Prime Minister Begin with new proposals for the solution of the 'Etzyoni report's problem. The interior minister refused to elaborate on the content of his proposals.

The interior minister told our correspondent Gil'ad Mishori that as far as he is concerned it makes no difference if the elections are held in June or in November. In any event, he said, the NRP should not be the element that rejects cooperation with the prime minister. The interior minister however added that the NRP is prepared for elections.

Upon leaving the meeting, which lasted about 45 minutes, Minister Burg emphasized that his position is also acceptable to Minister Hammer. According to him the NRP should not initiate early elections if the finance minister resigns. However, if the government turns into a minority government he believes that all signs indicate that the elections will be advanced. Dr Burg disclosed that in his talk with Labor Party chairman yesterday he rejected the possibility of holding elections within 60 days. He told Peres that he does not think the electios can be held before May or June.

Begin Plans

TA090527 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 9 Jan 81

[Text] Our correspondent has learned that in this Sunday's Cabinet meeting Mr Begin will not allow the initiation of a proposal for the government's resignation or early elections. Mr Begin also will not allow a vote in the Cabinet on such a proposal. Our correspondent explains that if Minister Hurvitz resigns on Sunday, Mr Begin will wait 48 hours for this resignation to become effective and will allow other ministers who so wish to follow Hurvitz.

Last night Minister Katz expressed the desire to prevent the capture of the Democratic Movement within the government if this turns into a transitional government from which one cannot withdraw. Mr Begin assured Minister Katz on this issue.

On the issue of early elections it has been stated that after a period of 48 hours following the resignation of all ministers who so wish, the Likud ministers will convene to decide on early elections. The coalition members said last night that it will be the Likud that will initiate the elections and will not allow the Alignment to raise a proposal of its own on the Knesset's dissolution. According to our correspondent, the Democratic Movement ministers will vote for early elections.

Minister Gid'on Pat said last night he is opposed to early elections. He said he was surprised by the positions presented by Minister Moda'i and MK Sharir. He says no liberal party institution convened and no binding position has been determined. Talking to correspondent, Gadi Sukenik, Minister Pat said that the Liberal Party is part of the Likud and should continue to act within the framework of the Likud.

NRP Position

TA090818 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 9 Jan 81 p 1

[By party affairs correspondent Amnon Barzilay]

[Text] The concern that an inquiry committee may be set up to look into the dismissal of the police inspector general and into the "Afarseq" [Peach] file was among the considerations that moved the minister of the interior and of the police, Mr Yosef Burg, together with Education Minister Zevulun Hammer, to initiate a decision of the National Religious Party leadership to change its position and decide to spare no effort to prevent advancing the elections.

Our HA'ARETZ correspondent has learned that there were estimates in the Interior Ministry that Dr Burg's position in the Cabinet might be undermined if his party were active in advancing the elections. In this event, the government would not take a united stance against a possible opposition initiative to demand the establishment of an inquiry committee.

NRP circles made it clear that in the middle of the week party director general Dani Vermus warned that the NRP would quit the govenment.

This warning was coordinated with Minister Hammer, who felt that at the Cabinet session early this week most of the ministers tended to agree with the position of Finance Minister Yiga'el Hurvitz. In the wake of Mr Vermus' warning, the chairman of the NRP Knesset faction, Knesset member Yehuda Ben-Me'ir repeated this warning, thus creating the impression that the NRP decided to bring down the government.

Yesterday, in a conversation between Ministers Burg and Hammer, the dangers the NRP is still facing were discussed, the first and foremost being the anticipated trial of Religious Affairs Minister Aharon Abu-Hatzera. The NRP leadership thinks if an election campaign is conducted simultaneously with the Abu-Hatzera trial proceedings, which will be in the daily news headlines, it will be detrimental to the party even if the religious affairs minister is acquited. Therefore, it was decided yesterday to stop the movement for holding early elections to the Knesset even if Finance Minister Yiga'el Hurvitz decides to resign on Sunday.

POST Commentary

TA090658 Jerusalem POST in English 9 Jan 81 pp 1, 2

[Sarah Honig commentary: "Why Is This Crisis so Different?"]

[Text] Soon after the ratificationof the Camp David agreements, things started going wrong for the Likud government. It then found itself with less and less breathing space between crises. Each crisis also seemed more critical than the last, yet the government continually surprised observers by surviving. This time, however, the betting is that Prime Minister Menahem Begin has run out of surprises.

But why is the crisis over the teachers so much worse than, say, that of the abortion question, which some months ago appeared to put the government in an impossible situation? On the face of it, it would appear that a compromise on the teachers' wages would be found between the finance and education ministers. But sources close to the prime minister say that "the problem is that a leading member of the Cabinet simply does not want the government to continue."

The "leading member of the Cabinet" is undoubtedly Finance Minister Yiga'el Hurvitz. His three-member RAFI faction has grown increasingly restless as the opinion polls make increasingly gloomy predictions about the Likud in the next elections. The political mathematics became simple: The Likud would be drastically trimmed and there would be far fewer safe slots on its list of candidates for the tenth Knesset. As long as present coalition agreements are in effect, the Liberal Party would be over-represented, and RAFI could not hope for more than a single seat. That would put Hurvitz in the next Knesset, but RAFI Executive Chairman Zalman Shoval and MK Yitzhaq Peretz would most likely be squeezed out.

Shoval therefore recently initiated a campaign for unifying the Likud into a single political entity. Likud unification became a precondition for continued RAFI membership in the Likud. But there was never really any chance that the RAFI conditions would be met. The liberals were not going to participate in undermining their own privileged position. And although Herut would eagerly have trimmed the liberals to their natural size, Begin would not have allowed what he deemed a betrayal of allies who had joined him in the difficult days of the mid-1960s.

RAFI continued to make its demands, but these were soon seen as a pretext for going its own way eventually as an independent ticket. It split from the Likud Histadrut faction and has launched a separate campaign for the Labour Federation elections. Unofficially, a headquarters had been set up to run an independent Knesset campaign as well.

Polls predicted a bright future for RAFI, especially if former Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan were to head its list. But Dayan is typically still undeclared, and without his vote-getting potential it is not clear how RAFI might do.

It was long felt in the coalition that RAFI was constantly on the lookout for an opportunity which could be used in the campaign to explain why the Hurvitz economic policy had failed to slow inflation.

The battle over the defence budget had seemed promising as an excuse, since indications were that Begin would not agree to the severe budget cuts Hurvitz was demanding. Hurvitz and RAFI were set to walk out over the issue. But Begin suddenly acceeded to Hurvitz' demands.

But what Begin could do as defence minister he could not do in the matter of the teachers' pay dispute. The education portfolio is in the hands of the National Religious Party, which is no less an integral part of the coalition than RAFI is. Begin could not force the education minister to give in, and thus Hurvitz finally found his means to get out of the coalition.

Although Hammer later toned down his position and seemed ready for a compromise, Hurvitz only went through the motions of seeking a solution. The die was cast.

The feeble effort to save the government by substituting the three-member Ahva faction for RAFI would not work. Coalition members from all parties opposed the move, and some even threatened to resign along with Hurvitz.

The National Religious Party could also read the writing on the wall. It realized that Hurvitz' resignation would bring the government down. Therefore, it would make more electoral sense to appear as if it also favoured early elections--rather than seeming to be unwillingly pulled into them.

Hence the NRP made it clear thatit would actually press for early elections in the event of a resignation from the government.

Given this situation, Begin could do only the honourable thing--resign. This is what aides say he has indeed decided--unless someone in the government comes up with yet another miraculous saving measure by Sunday's Cabinet session.

OFFICIAL MEETS WITH GREEK FOREIGN MINISTER

TA090654 Jerusalem POST in English 9 Jan 81 p 1

[David Landau report: "Foreign Ministry's Qimhi Meets Greek FM in Athens"]

[Text] In a rare high-level meeting between Israel and Greece, the director-general of the Foreign Ministry, David Qimhi, met in Athens yesterday with Greek foreign minister, Konstantinos Mitsotakis and his senior aides. Officials in Jerusalem said Qimhi had "congratulated Mitsotakis on Greece's entry into the European Community" and the two men had "discussed bilateral issues."

Qimhi is believed to have raised Israel's longstanding grievance over Greece's refusal to maintain full diplomatic relations with her. The two countries have "diplomatic representatives" instead of full ambassadors. Some international law experts say this implies that Greece does not accord Israel full de jure recognition, but others dispute the point. Israel has been pressing the EC countries to pressure Greece in turn to end this anomaly now that Greece has become a member of the Common Market (Greece joined formally on January 1).

Qimhi's mission to Athens--he flew there en route from Copenhagen to Tel Aviv--was kept a close secret during the week. Officials feared that prior publication might prejudice the prospects of his success.

Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir and Director-General Qimhi both firmly believe in stepping up Israel's dialogue with the European nations individually and the EC as a whole. Now that Greece has joined the nine (now the ten), Israeli observers are hoping for closer rapport than in the past between Athens and Jerusalem. Shamir told the POST yesterday that he would "spare no effort" to improve ties with Greece and have the diplomatic ties between the two countries fully normalized. He said that he would involve himself personally in these efforts.

HADDAD CITED ON U.S. AID, KISSINGER VISIT

TA090736 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 9 Jan 81

[Text] The commander of the Christian militia in southern Lebanon, Maj Sa'd Haddad, sent messages to the new U.S. administration team. Major Haddad asks them to guarantee U.S. support for the Christians in southern Lebanon. Our correspondent in the north, Me'ir Einstein, reports:

[Begin recording] Major Haddad believes and hopes that in the coming year, when a new administration will handle U.S. foreign policy, a positive change will take place in U.S. policy in the region, a change that will be expressed in a sympathetic approach and real U.S. aid to the Christians in southern Lebanon. The Christian militia commander hinges many hopes on incoming President Ronald Reagan. In an attempt to learn of the new president's intentions Major Haddad appealed to U.S. elements close to him to look into the possibility that an invitation be sent to a representative of the south Lebanese Christians to participate in the official ceremony held in Washington on the occasion of Ronald Reagan's assuming the presidency. Major Haddad who appreciates U.S. power ascribes great importance to talks and contacts with U.S. personages. He therefore did not conceal his disappointment that a meeting with Henry Kissinger was not arranged for him on the latter's recent visit to Israel. [end recording]

ETHIOPIA

MENGISTU TALKS WITH EGYPTIAN, CHINESE ENVOYS

LD081154 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 0900 GMT 8 Jan 81 EA

[Excerpt] Comrade Chairman Mengistu Haile Mariam, chairman of the Provisional Military Administrative Council and of the Commission for Organizing the Party of the Workers of Ethiopia and commander in chief of the revolutionary army, yesterday at the Grand Palace received and held talks with the Egyptian and PRC ambassadors to socialist Ethiopia.

Talking to the PRC Ambassador, His Excellency Mr Wang Jinchuan, and the Egyptian ambassador, His Excellency Mahmud Kasim, Comrade Chairman Mengistu explained that socialist Ethiopia has established with its neighbors, Kenya, Sudan and Djibouti good friendly ties of cooperation which could be cited as a good example at a time when Ethiopia is also engaged in making efforts for the welfare, freedom and prosperity of its people. Comrade Chairman Mengistu Haile Mariam also explained to the ambassadors of the two countries how much attention Ethiopia has given to peaceful development by engaging in the economic development campaign, the rehabilitation of the victims of war and natural calamities and other displaced persons, as well as the launching of the literacy campaign throughout the country.

Comrade Chairman Mengistu further told the ambassadors that while revolutionary Ethiopia is engaged in such welfare efforts, international imperialism is arming and strengthening Somalia for destruction and the disruption of peace in the Horn of Africa, as it has done in the past. He said that Somalia is not abiding by international treaties and charters and that international imperialism is doing this in its conspiracy to disrupt peace and obstruct development in the region.

Therefore, Comrade Chairman Mengistu Haile Mariam noted, revolutionary Ethiopia finds it necessary to know the role of the governments of people's China and Egypt in this and requests the two ambassadors to reveal to him the opinion and stand of their respective governments on this issue.

SOMALIA

SIAD BARRE RECEIVES VISITING U.S. CONGRESSMEN

LD082023 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 1700 GMT 8 Jan 81 EA

[Text] Challe Mohamed Siad Barre, secretary general of the Somali Revolutionary Socialist Party [SRSP] and president of the Somali Democratic Republic [SDR], this afternoon received in his office a delegation of U.S. congressmen who arrived on a brief visit to the SDR this morning. Challe Siad and the U.S. delegation led by Mr Clarence D. Long discussed in their meeting the strengthening of relations and cooperation between Somalia and America. The delegation held similar talks with the chairman of the People's National Assembly, Challe Ismail ali Abokor, and members of the Standing Committee of the People's National Assembly. Present at these occasions were the Somali ambassador in America and other officials.

The delegation was received at Mogadishu airport by the chairman of the Inspection Committee of the Standing Committee of the People's National Assembly, Challe Abd al-Qssim Hasan, and other members of the Standing Committee of the People's National Assembly.

PRESIDENT INTERVIEWD ON U.S. PRESENCE, BASE

LD081517 Rome LA REPUBLICA in Italian 3 Jan 81 p 11

[Magdi Allam report on Fu'ad Abu Mansur 'Arabi interview with Somali President Siad Barre: "Siad Barre Denies Granting Berbera Base"--date and place not specified]

[Text] The journalist Fu'ad Abu Mansur 'Arabi has interviewed Somali President Siad Barre. With Ronald Reagan's advent to power, Somalia again assumes a prominent role in U.S. policy vis-a-vis the Horn of Africa.

[Question] Ronald Reagan's victory and the Kissinger line's return to U.S. foreign policy are prompting fears that the Horn of Africa region will become a hotbed of war again. How do you judge the strategic objectives of the two major powers in the region, and what are their repercussions on Somalia?

[Answer] There is undoubtedly a conflict between the two major powers for control of the straits in the Indian Ocean, the Arab Gulf and the Red Sea. This conflict has sparked off several problems--the Somali and Eritrean refugees problem, the strengthening of Ethiopian colonialism, and the freezing of the national liberation movements' activities. As far as Somalia in particular is concerned, the roots of the conflict must be sought in the colonialism which split the country into five parts--two under Britain, one under Italy, one under France and another under Ethiopian occupation.

[Question] Let us talk about the U.S. presence in Somalia.

[Answer] What you call the U.S. presence is in fact simply cooperation between two sovereign and independent states with a view to achieving shared interests, and definitely not to harm other countries of the region. It is Ethiopian President Mengistu who is spreading these rumors, and the promoters of the defamatory campaign are the Soviet Union and its newspaper PRAVDA.

[Question] But there is the Berbera military base....

[Answer] The Western press and even the press of certain Arab countries maintain that the enormous military base at Berbera has rented to the United States for $40 million a year. It is a ridiculous and completely unfounded story. I wish to stress here and now that there are no U.S. bases in Somalia and that there is not a single U.S. soldier, let alone military camp, here. The truth of the matter is quite different: We have granted the Americans specific facilities at the ports of Mogadishu and Berbera.

[Question] What do these facilities consist of?

[Answer] They consist of supplies of water, food and other necessities. A few days ago there were French naval ships in our ports, and shortly before that there were Italian ships there. But nobody issued any protest. Why, then, this campaign which violates Somalia's independence and defames it? In any case, if the Somali Government believed that it was in its interest to request the U.S. Army's intervention in Somalia, it would do so without delay.

RADIO COMMENTARY ON KENYAN POLITICAL PROBLEMS

LD092020 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 1700 GMT 8 Jan 81 EA

[(Muhammad Arab Falah Falah) commentary]

[Text] Lately, the newspapers and the Government of Kenya have made it their habit to heap baseless lies on Somalia and spread the internal crises which are of their own making to Somalia. In the last few months of 1980, the Kenya Government concocted stories that Somalia is involved in acts that took place in its own country due to its poor administration.

Several officers have been killed in the northeastern region of Kenya, which the Nairobi officials attributed to the people of Somali origin, with the subsequent unjustified acts of killing, torture and screening in protected villages.

It is appropriate to state the facts and mention the chaos in Kenya and where it is based. In Kenya the order of the day for a long time now has been the killing and robbing of citizens or of the authorities and the general public. What cannot be refuted is the formation of organized gangs. It has become evident that Nairobi itself has lost stability; individual freedom has vanished and the machete has replaced the policeman for self-defense.

The mutual allegations against each other, pillaging and robbing that exist in Kenya have brought problems to the neighboring countries who are forced to be vigilant in checking those elements or habits from spreading to their countries.

Is it not conceivable that those who are subjected to unfair and unjustified acts may kill the official who mistreated them in revenge for the unjustified acts? Is it not conceivable that a poor internal administration may bring even worse events than the killing of those officials? Or were they the first to be killed in Kenya's regions? It is also amazing that the Kenyan minister of foreign affairs stated in London that Somalia was behind the crises in the northeastern region and denied the allegations of inhuman treatment of the people living there. Is there proof of Kenya's charges? Are there people who have been captured and brought to court and who have proved that Somalia was involved? Have any signs of Somalia's fingerprints been shown to foreign journalists or international organizations?

If the Kenyan government wants peace in the area it governs why has it not carried out suggestions made by the Kenyan security forces on apprehending the elements who are stooges of Abyssinian hegemony?

Robert Ouko is not unaware of these social conditions in his country but is playing the political tune of letting things go. The current chaos in Kenya is very widespread and, like molten lava, is seeping out across its society. But this is not something which Somalia should be blamed for, Somalia having shown good-neighborliness and coexistence based on genuine friendship.

The provocations by Kenyan leaders cannot bring solutions or solve the burning issues nor can they extricate Kenya from her problems as she thinks they can.

LEADERS ADDRESS NEW REGIONAL CHAIRMEN'S SEMINAR

Siad Barre Lecture

LD082044 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 1400 GMT 8 Jan 81 EA

[TExt] Challe Mohammed Siad Barre, the secretary general of the Somali Revolutionary Socialist Party [SRSP] and president of the Somali Democratic Republic [SDR], this morning gave a lecture on their role in guiding the masses of Somalia to the new regional and district chairmen of all the regions and districts of the country, who are members of the armed forces, and who were assembled at the Police Academy in Mogadishu for a seminar.

SDR President Challe Mohamed Siad Barre told the gathering that the state of emergency declared in the country is aimed at correcting the deflected aims and aspirations of the revolution and in order to correct this it has become essential to appoint officers of the armed forces to run the affairs of the regions and districts of the country. The state of emergency declared in the country is also aimed at streamlining the running of state affairs, and to check and apprehend those few who are crippling the state machinery, Challe Siad said.

Challe Mohamed Siad Barre urged the new chairmen who are going to be responsible for state affairs in the regions and the districts to wage a merciless war against the elements who are working for the imperialists, to lead the masses to work and increase production and show dedication to enable them to execute their duties effectively. The revolution was born for the Somali masses and will not tolerate a few bloodsuckers harming the less able members of the Somali community, declared Challe Siad.

SDR president Challe Mohamed Siad Barre also said it is indispensable for the new chairmen to work effectively to uphold the principles of the state's law and traditions of justice. The president said that at the birth of the revolution, officers of the armed forces were appointed to carry out state affairs and they have played a noble role in the political, economic and social affairs of the entire country, and for that reason he hoped that those who have now been appointed to similar positions will redouble their efforts in the execution of their responsibilities and obligations to the nation.

Challe Mohammed Siad Barre urged the officers to carry out their duties in a firm manner based on justice and far from tribalism, nepotism and mismanagement. Challe Mohamed Siad Barre called upon the new chairman of the regions to uphold the respect and dignity of the armed forces and to eschew chauvinism and self-importance. A nationalist is the one who upholds the principle of the nationhood of the broad Somali masses and is always opposed to any move harming the integrity of the nation while at the same time putting up with the natural hazards and difficult times, Said Challe Siad.

Challe Siad discussed in detail the importance of security and the economic achievements since the birth of the revolution and it had effects of tribalism on the nation. He pointed out that tribalism is the road to the nation's disintegration and those who harbor tribalism are cowards and greedy.

The president, speaking on assisting the liberation movements, said it is our sacred obligation to assist those who are struggling for their freedom and independence and who have fled from the oppression and colonialism of Abyssinia.

Speaking on taxes, he declared that taxes are the basis of the country's economy and for that reason the leaders of the region are obliged to inspect and collect taxes promptly at the regional and district level.

Speaking on the importance of defending the existence of the Somali state, SDR President Challe Mohamed Siad Barre said that every citizen has the sacred duty to prepare himself to defend and safeguard the integrity and sovereignty of his nationhood. He said the Somalis are known for their bravery and have always been ready to defend their country and people.

Challe Mohamed Siad Barre finally called upon the officers of the regions and the districts of the country to lead the masses toward progress and prosperity.

Vice President's Statement

LD082107 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 1400 GMT 8 Jan 81 EA

[Text] Challe Maj Gen Hussein Kulmiye Afrah, second vice president of the Somali Democratic Republic [SDR], who is also chairman of the Social Committee of the Supreme Revolutionary Council [SRC], this morning opened a 2-week seminar for officers of the armed forces at the police academy. These officers have been appointed chairmen of regional and district committees. The new officers will receive lessons on politics, party matters, administration and other matters pertaining to the general welfare of the Somali masses. The aim of the seminar is to enlighten the new officers on the new responsibilities assigned to them.

The second vice president of the SDR, Challe Hussein Kulmiye Afrah, addressing the new officers, said that the appointment of officers from the armed forces to positions of leadership at regional and district levels in the country follows the declaration of a state of emergency declared by Challe Muhamed Siad Barre, secretary general of the Somali Revolutionary Socialist Party [SRSP] and president of the SDR. It also follows the correction of the deviations in administration of the country, the reawakening of the people in increasing agricultural and other production as well as in the defense of the country. The second vice president further told the officers appointed to regional and district offices that a heavy burden has been placed upon them which calls for devotion and dedication. He added that this can only be carried out through unity, close consultation and joint cooperation: I am sure that you will lead the Somali masses in the regions and districts toward uplifting the state economy which is the backbone of the progress of society.

The second vice president of the SDR, Challe Hussein Kulmiye Afrah, speaking on the revival of the SRC said in the past few months elements have emerged who are bent on cutting the throats of the general masses by any means and for that reason the new officers have been appointed to safeguard the Somali masses from the dangers that might come from these greedy, self-interested bloodsuckers and others.

He also said: After taking up your new appointents you might be faced with natural problems. He therefore urged them to tighten their belts so that they could help the general masses to pass through this difficult period. Present on the occasion were general bureau and bureau chairman and other officials from various sections of the government.

TANZANIA

GOVERNMENT NEWSPAPER ON GENEVA MEETING ON NAMIBIA

AB072020 Paris AFP in French 1806 GMT 7 Jan 81

[Text] Dar Es Salaam, 7 Jan (AFP)--The Geneva conference on Namibia, which opens on Wednesday has to devote itself to the need to reach an effective cease-fire and to draw up a reliable time-table to make Namibia truly independent by the end of the year, the Tanzanian government newspaper, the DAILY NEWS, writes in its editorial on Wednesday.

The paper accuses South Africa of constantly undermining the initiatives for a peaceful solution to the Namibian problem and considers that the outlook for the Geneva conference is bleak.

The DAILY NEWS thinks that Pretoria will seek to have SWAPO stripped of its recognition as the sole and true representative of the Namibian people and to get its Namibian puppets recognized as the equals of the SWAPO. In this way, the daily writes, South Africa intends to force the conference to be engulfed in procedural disputes, which, according to the newspaper, the world can hardly afford.

UGANDA

PRESIDENT OBOTE SWEARS IN NINE MINISTERS

LD081202 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1000 GMT 8 Jan 81 EA

[Text] President Milton Obote has sworn in nine ministers. The ceremony took place at parliament buildings. The nine ministers are: of local government, Mr Kalule Settala; of power and communications, Mr Akena Pokik; of transport, Mr Yosa Mugenyi; of public service and cabinet affairs, Mr Wilson Okwenje; of works, Mr Abena Nangwale; of state for agriculture, Mr Patrick Rubaihayo; and of state, Office of the Prime Minister and chief whip, Mr (Osinde Tewandwal).

The ceremony was also attended by the vice president and minister of defense, Mr Paulo Muwanga, the prime minister and leader of government business, Mr Otema Alimadi, and other Cabinet ministers.

CHAD

CHADIAN STUDENTS OCCUPY EMBASSY IN BRUSSELS

NC091124 Paris AFP in English 1113 GMT 9 Jan 81

[Text] Brussels, 9 Jan (AFP)--A group of Chadian students today occupied their embassy here to protest the proposed merger of Chad and Libya. A spokesman for the students, who intend to remain in the embassy for the rest of today, said that Charge d'Affaires Issaka Ramat al Hamdou was still in the building, but he had no access to the telephone.

CONGO

CPSU DELEGATION MEETS WITH SASSOU-NGUESSO

AB081620 Brazzaville Domestic Service in French 1245 GMT 8 Jan 81

[Text] The CPSU delegation which is visiting our country leaves tomorrow. This morning this delegation paid a courtesy visit to the chairman of the Central Committee, Comrade Denis Sassou-Nguesso. [words indistinct] The leader of this delegation briefed newsmen on the content of his discussion with the president.

[Begin recording] We were honored by being received by Col Denis Sassou-Nguesso, chairman of the Congolese Labor Party [PCT] Central Committee and president. We had a cordial, and very useful meeting with Comrade Sassou-Nguesso. We reviewed a certain number of matters, ranging from our bilateral relations to the international situation. The discussions we held today allowed us once again, to note the community of views on all matters discussed. We discussed new steps needed to reinforce the relations of friendship and solidarity between our two parties and between the Soviet and Congolese peoples. We also extended the message of congratulations of the CPSU Central Committee to the PCT Central Committee on the occasion of the 11th anniversary of the PCT's founding. We also extended an invitation for a delegation of the PCT to attend the 21st CPSU congress which will be held at the end of next February.

[Question] Thank you very much. But before concluding our interview, could you tell us how are relations between the PCT and the CPSU?

[Answer] We agreed on the fact that relations between the PCT and the CPSU [words indistinct]. The technique we are going to adopt is to improve those activities which fall within the common interest of the two parties and peoples. Our two parties have the same opinion on the great issues of the struggle against imperialism, neocolonialism, racism and apartheid. [end recording]

GABON

BONGO REACTS TO LIBYAN ATTEMPT TO 'ANNEX' CHAD

AB091003 Libreville Domestic Service in French 1830 GMT 8 Jan 81

[Text] The president of the republic, El Hadj Omar Bongo, has made an important statement following Libya's attempt to annex Chad. The president condemned this act which he described as very serious and announced that he would seek the views of the heads of state of the member countries of the Central African Customs and Economic Union [UDEAC] on the issue. Let us listen to the president of the republic:

[Begin recording] [words indistinct] As a matter of fact, in my capacity as the current chairman of the UDEAC and a Central African head of state, I am of the opinion that the move announced--in other words Libya's attempt to annex Chad--is a very serious matter. It is very serious for us, the members of the UDEAC, because very recently Chad was represented at the Brazzaville summit by the deputy prime minister, Colonel Kamougue, who publicly and solemnly announced that Chad would soon rejoin the UDEAC. But there is a more serious problem.

The problem is that like Gabon, Chad is a member of the Development Bank of the Central African States, BDEAC. Does this mean that Chad will no longer belong to the BDEAC and consequently to the franc monetary zone if it is annexed by Libya? This is one of the questions we have to answer. Sincerely, I think that I am rushing things a bit but I will get into contact with all the heads of state of our monetary zone, that is to say the Congo, Cameroon and the Central African Republic, in order to know their views. In any case, even locally, that is to say concerning Chad and Gabon, there is a small problem: The Chadian state got a loan from the Gabonese state. I do not know when this loan will be repaid if the news you have just announced to me is true.

[Question] Mr President, has President Goukouni Oueddei enough legitimacy to commit his country on this path of union with Libya?

[Question] Personally, I can tell you that I do not even believe what is happening because, in the first place, there are the Lagos accords which had been signed by the 11 factions and which made Goukouni the president of a transitional government. Therefore, this government does not represent the Chadian people. I am also wondering whether what Goukouni has done was done in his capacity as the leader of a faction. Well, if he acted in his capacity as a faction leader, that is his own problem. But if he acted as a president, he had no legal right to do this. First of all, we still have the Lagos accords which have not been cancelled. Secondly, he is only a transitional president.

I believe that if Chad should be annexed, a referendum should be held to consult the sovereign people of Chad. But this was not the case and the declaration of Vice President Kamougue indicates that he does not support the move. We do not know the reactions of the other factions. I personally believe that one cannot talk of a union but only of a Libyan annexation of Chad.

[Question Indistinct]

[Answer] I sincerely think that this is not true. Let me take Gabon's typical example: When Equatorial Guinea was still a Spanish colony, we did all we could to help it. The former authorities of that country such as (Ledou) and Macias Nguema and most of it ministers had resided and worked Gabon. There was even a minister who worked here as a messenger. I am not saying this to humiliate him. I was a permanent undersecretary at that time. These people later became ministers. But when Equatorial Guinea achieved independence, we did not ask it to (?join) us.

Nearer home, we have the case of Sao Tome and Principe. As you know, the president of Sao Tome and Principe had worked here and it was Gabon which sent delegations to General Spinola so that Sao Tome and Principe might be granted independence. Sao Tome and Principe later achieved independence. We think we helped these two brotherly countries. Our duty ended there. We helped Chad also. For example, there was the case of the finance and economy minister of the Goukouni government: Although he belonged to Hissein Habre's faction, we gave then money when they came here. We did not ask for any compensation. Therefore, if Libya wants to have some claim over Chad because it helped it, I think we should simply say that Libya is playing the role of an imperialist. That is all.

[Question] Mr President, we believe that President Goukouni Oueddei has violated the Lagos accords with this project of a union between Libya and Chad. [words indistinct] Do you not think this will result in secession?

[Answer] You are indeed right, both Goukouni and Al-Qadhdhafi have violated the Lagos accords of which they were signatories. But I am not at all in favor of secession but in the complete unity of Chad. I am not in favor of secession. There can be secession only if the Chadian people, through a referendum, decide to split their country into two or three states. This would be a purely internal affair of Chad. As far as I am concerned, I am for the complete unity of Chad. [end recording]

ZAIRE

MARCHES IN KASAI ORIENTAL SUPPORT MOBUTU 6 JAN

AB081316 Kinshasa AZAP in French 1050 GMT 8 Jan 81

[Text] Mbuji Mayi, 7 Jan (AZAP)--Massive marches of support for the founding chairman of the MPR were staged all over the territory of the region of the Kasai Oriental on Tuesday afternoon.

In Mbuji Mayi in particular, thousands of militants (men, women and children) gathered in the five urban zones and marched toward the Maison de la Zairoise chanting and shouting revolutionary slogans. One could hear the crowd shouting: Faithfulness to the guide of the revolution; long live peace and unity of the nation; down with subversive elements.

In a brief speech to the population following the support march, Citizen Efambe Yolanga, the political commissioner and governor of the region, thanked the people of Kasai Oriental in general and those of Mbuji Mayi in particular for the political maturity and permanent readiness that they have always shown whenever the authorities have called on them for a revolutionary demonstration.

Citizen Efambe then expressed his satisfaction with the peace and calm prevailing in the region since the discovery of the adventurous machinations of the 13 people's commissioners. As a matter of fact, he called on the people to double their vigilance, report every act of subversion and avoid arbitrary accusation.

After recalling the main points of the presidential message of 5 January, the governor underlined the concern of the founding president over the social situation of the country during this year. He then added that the specific problems of Kasai Oriental will not be neglected.

The support marches by the militants of Kasai Oriental bore a special mark because, in spite of the rainy weather which nearly undercut the success of the demonstration, there was a massive turnout.

Political commissioner and governor of Kasai Oriental Citizen Efambe Yolanga, on behalf of the people of his region, today sent a message of support for and faithfulness to Citizen Mobutu Sese Seko, founding chairman of the MPR and president of the republic. In the message, he strongly disapproves and condemns the disloyal maneuvers of some sons of this country who continue to betray the interests of the people. He reaffirms his inalienable attachment to Guide Mobutu Sese Seko.

On the other hand, the people's commissioners of the urban subregion of Mbuji Mayi, in a support motion sent to the guide, also disapproved the unbearable behavior of the 13 people's commissioners who have betrayed their voters. They pledged their determination to fight and jealously to defend the recovered peace and tranquility.

DISSIDENT CONFIRMS UNREST IN KASAI PROVINCE

AB081426 Paris AFP in English 1328 GMT 8 Jan 81

[Excerpts] Brussels, 8 Jan (AFP)--The chairman of the Congo Liberation Council, a coalition of exiled Zairian opposition groups, today confirmed reports of unrest in Zaire's Kasai Province following the arrest of 14 [as received] Zairian National Assembly members. Mungul Diaka, an exiled former minister, said that further protests were being planned for the Katanga (Shaba) Region in the south of the country.

Mr Diaka said that 14 members from all parts of the country had been arrested after issuing a document analyzing the past 15 years under General Mobutu and calling for a change of leadership through presidential elections. He added that eight others had been placed under house arrest. The arrested asembly members had also accused the president and his son of embezzling state funds over the Christmas break and had denounced the purchase with government money of an armour-plated Rolls Royce for the son, he said.

IVORY COAST

FRENCH FOREIGN MINISTER ARRIVES FOR 4-DAY VISIT

AB081315 Abidjan Domestic Service in French 1245 GMT 8 Jan 81

[Excerpt] The French foreign minister, Mr Jean Francois-Poncet, arrived in our country a short while ago. Mr Poncet, who is here on a 4-day visit at the invitation of our government, will visit the interior of the country, particularly San Pedro and Yamoussoukro. The French minister and his Ivorian counterpart, Mr Semeon Ake, will hold a meeting today at 1500.

EDITORIAL COMMENTS ON LIBYA-CHAD MERGER PLAN

AB081256 Abidjan FRATERNITE MATIN in French 8 Jan 81 p 28

[Editorial by A. Bassole: "Expansionism"]

[Text] Now Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi can rub his hands in satisfaction, or better still he can let out a sigh of relief and shout: Mission accomplished! Politically, has his country not just put into concrete form with the winning of the battle of Chad their victory over Hissein Habre's Northern Armed Forces?

Without consulting their peoples, the two heads of state have decided in broad daylight to form a single jamahiriyah, that is a single state.

In fact, this idea, which is the brainchild of Tripoli, should not come as a surprise to well informed observers. In doing this Al-Qadhdhafi, the religious fundamentalist, is being logical with himself. It will be recalled that Libya has attempted similar mergers with countries like Egypt, Tunisia and Syria. The results of these various merger attempts have hitherto not been commensurate with the popular enthusiasm (the usual jargon used) expressed after the announcement of these projects. In fact, observers wonder whether the same lot will not befall this other initiative.

Apart from the great, justified concern that this merger attempt will raise among Chad's immediate neighbors, it is no more or less than a flagrant violation of the Lagos accord. What cannot be doubted is that one day or another it will create new discord among Chad's political factions.

For the moment, Al-Qadhdhafi is advancing his Chadian pawns as part of his plans to form a "United States of the Sahel."

Certainly, the country is ruined after 9 months of civil war with all its imaginable consequences--not to mention the plight of the many Chadian people who are still camped under almost inhuman conditions in refugee camps in Kousseri, Cameroon. These numerous problems would be disturbing to any government, but are they sufficient reasons for the sons of Chad currently in power to sacrifice their fatherland on the alter of their own interest? Do they mean to put the disputed Aouzou strip, which has been annexed by Libya since 1973, in the profit and loss column? It is not yet known. What is known is that Goukouni, the president of GUNT, has always clearly affirmed that "that thousands of Chadians live in Libya and they have become Libyans; and thousands of Libyans live in Chad and have become Chadians." In other words, Chadians and Libyans are one and the same people.

Surely, some sort of affinity exists between Libyans and Chadians, but under the present circumstances, Goukouni, for well-known reasons, could not use any other language. Does he not, in fact, owe his legitimacy to Libya?

In short, Al-Qadhdhafi finds himself in a good position in Chad to give free rein to his destablizing intentions.

NIGERIA

GOVERNMENT CALLS CHAD-LIBYA PROPOSAL 'UNFORTUNATE'

AB081640 Lagos Domestice Service in English 1500 GMT 8 Jan 81

[Text] The federal government has commented on the move between President al-Qadhdhafi of Libya and President Goukouni Oueddei of the Transitional National Union Government of Chad to work toward the merger of the two countries. In a statement from the Ministry of External Affairs, the government says that Nigeria considers such a proposal as unfortunate and premature, considering the recent events that have taken place in the Republic of Chad. The real priority for the republic, says that federal government, is to consolidate the cease-fire, rehabilitate the disabled Chadians and reactivate the economy.

The government further said that these moves should be followed be free and fair elections to be held by the OAU and the Chadian leaders, according to the Lagos accord. Nigeria has had a longstanding involvement in the search for lasting peace in Chad.

UPPER VOLTA

MALI'S BEYE COMMENTS ON LIBYA-CHAD MERGER ISSUE

AB082225 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 2000 GMT 8 Jan 81

[Excerpts] The head of state, Col Saye Zerbo, received Alioune Blondin Beye, Malian minister of foreign affairs and cooperation, in audience this afternoon. Present at the audience was Lt Col Felix Tiemtarboum, our minister of foreign affairs and cooperation. At the end of the audience, the Malian foreign minister defined the purpose of his meeting to (Losonie Boronos):

[Begin recording] I have been charged with delivering a message to Colonel Zerbo, exactly what I have just done. The message concerns bilateral relations between the two countries. The message also deals with problems of the subregion, confronted with the known climatic harzards. Finally, the message refers to the problems of the continent.

[Question] Mr Minister, we are going to touch on an African problem, concerning the merger plan between President Al-Qadhdhafi of Libya and Goukouni Oueddei of Chad. As the head of Malian diplomacy, what do you think about this fusion?

[Answer] As you have said yourself, this fusion is at the planning stage. As a result one must limit one's opinion. A foreign minister does not have to define events. The position of my country on the Chadian affair is known, and this position conforms with the African stand, that is, as far as we are concerned, everthing boils down to the Lagos accord, that is, all the Lagos accords and nothing but the Lagos accords. Because it is in Lagos that all the Chadian [word indistinct] met and they were able to agree on a concensus of opinion. And it is this concensus that has to be applied if possible. With reference to the position of Hissein Habre or to the plans of Goukouni Oueddei, both of these leaders have to remember that the basis for settlement remained the Lagos accord. And both of them must remember that the goals of this country should be to save life and the country's national unity. In any case, the concern of the Malian authorities is centered on this. [end recording]

ANGOLA

ANGOP DENIES SECRET TALKS HELD WITH PRETORIA

AB091211 Paris AFP in French 1130 GMT 9 Jan 81

[Text] Luanda, 9 Jan (AFP)--In a comment published today by the JORNAL DE ANGOLA, the official Angolan news agency (ANGOP) denied that secret talks paving the way for the summoning of the Geneva conference on Namibia have been held between Pretoria and Luanda.

ANGOP, referring to reports published by the South African daily newspaper BEELD, said there have been many lies and intrigues, adding that the talks which led to the summoning of the Geneva conference had been sponsored by the United Nations and not Angola. The news agency also affirmed that to imagine that Angola is facing so-called internal problems resulting from the support of the Luanda regime for the SWAPO is to demonstrate naivete.

Last November already, the Angolan authorities had denied the existence of an agreement with Pretoria stating that South Africa would stop its support for the rebel movement of UNITA (National Union for the Total Independence of Angola) if Angola stopped its support for SWAPO.

MALAWI

PRESIDENT BANDA APPOINTS THREE NEW MINISTERS

LD081048 Blantyre Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 7 Jan 81 CA

[Text] His Excellency the Life President Ngwazi Dr Kamuzu Banda has made a few changes to the cabinet with effect from today. Announcing this, a spokesman of the Office of the President and Cabinet in Lilongwe said in the changes Mr Chaziya Phiri becomes minister of finance, Mr Louis Chimango becomes minister of local government and of community development and Mr Twaibu Sangala becomes minister of health.

MOZAMBIQUE

MARCELINO DOS SANTOS LEAVES FOR BULGARIA, GDR

LD082055 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1700 GMT 8 Jan 81 EA

[Text] Marcelino dos Santos, a member of the permanent Political Committee and the Frelimo Party Central Committee secretary for economic policy, left Maputo this afternoon for Bulgaria and the GDR. Marcelino dos Santos is visiting these countries within the framework of the existing cooperation and will hold talks with the respective governments. He is accompanied by the state secretary for coal and hydrocarbons, (Abdul Majid).

SOUTH AFRICA

BOTHA SAYS SWAPO WILL FEIGN MODERATION AT TALKS

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[Text] The South African minister of foreign affairs, Mr Roelof Botha, says the big question at the Geneva conference is whether or not South-West African political parties will be given equal footing and whether they can be satisfied about United Nations impartiality in leading the territory to independence. In an interview in Pretoria, Mr Botha said the South-West African political parties could not be blamed for standing up so strongly for their point of view because their future depended on it; the future of the whole of southern Africa depended on it. It could be accepted that SWAPO would put on a front of being reasonable and even flexible at the conference, pretending to be moderate before the world instead of the horror of their normal acts of terror.